



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 448

PAGE 01 ADEN 01419 091140Z

51
ACTION NEA 15

INFO IO 13, EA 10, CAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /104 W

R 091050Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1630

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADEN 1419

SUBJ: SOUTHERN YEMEN

1. WITH EXCEPTION FONMIN DHALAI'S EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY CONCERNING SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH WE HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL COMMENT OTHER THAN FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES.

2. ADEN RADIO HAS CARRIED COMMENTS PRINTED IN AL-AHRAM AND AL-ANWAR AND OTHER ARAB NEWSPAPERS CONDEMNING POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN GENERAL AND ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY, AND HAS NOTED EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY BY UNGA.

3. ADEN RADIO ALSO HAS CARRIED COMMENT BY HANOI RADIO CRITICIZING ASSASSINATION, BUT PLACING BLAME ON THOSE ELEMENTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY WHICH BELIEVE IN KILLING FOR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. ONLY LOCAL NEWSPAPER, "14 OCTOBER," HAS NOT APPEARED SINCE ASSASSINATION OWING LOCAL HOLIDAYS.

4. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER ARAB SOURCES ADEN PUBLIC HAS HELD KENNEDY FAMILY IN HIGH ESTEEM AND IN GENERAL WAS BOTH SHOCKED AND REVOLTED BY ASSASSINATION. WE UNDERSTAND OTHERS HOWEVER TEND TO LOOK UPON SIRHAN'S ACTION AS PROVOKED BY GENERAL AMERICAN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL. DAVIS

RECORDED BY 83, B

CONFIDENTIAL

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ADEN 1419

6/9/68

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 204

PAGE 01 BAMAKO 1865 081354Z

44

ACTION AF 15

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, RSR 01,

/100 W

O 081315Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1506

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 1865

REF: BAMAKO'S USINFO 1860

1. L'ESSOR EDITORIAL OF JUNE 7 ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION (BAMAKO'S USINFO #1860), BRUTAL, BUT REGRETTABLY THE ANGER, IF NOT THE IDEOLOGICAL PITCH, FAIRLY ACCURATELY REFLECTS GENERAL MALIAN SENTIMENT.

2. AFTER PUBLICATION OF EDITORIAL I IMMEDIATELY WENT TO FOREIGN OFFICE WHERE I SAW ASSISTANT SECGEN AMADOU THIAM, HIGHEST OFFICIAL AVAILABLE. I EXPRESSED MY SHOCK AND DISAPPOINTMENT OVER EDITORIAL WHICH I STATED COULD ONLY INFLAME MALIAN EMOTIONS AND RISK CREATING ATTITUDE OF HOSTILITY OF MALIAN PEOPLE TOWARDS U.S. WHICH I WAS SURE WAS NOT IN SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION FOR WHICH SENATOR KENNEDY STOOD. I COULD NOT PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT PARTY AND GOVERNMENT WISHED TO STIR UP HOSTILITY BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES AND I ASKED THIAM TO INFORM THE LEADERSHIP OF MY DEMARCHE AND MY HOPE THAT GOM WOULD SEE FIT NOT TO REPEAT EDITORIAL ON RADIO MALI. NEVERTHELESS, EDITORIAL WAS CARRIED ON RADIO YESTERDAY.

3. DURING FAREWELL CALLS ON SEVERAL MINISTERS I REITERATED MY INDIGNATION AND CONCERN. I WAS CORDIALLY RECEIVED BUT MY COMMENTS ON EDITORIAL OBVIOUSLY MADE LITTLE IMPACT. IT CLEAR THAT ASSASSINATION OF THOSE AMERICAN LEADERS THEY IDENTIFY WITH A NEW SPIRIT OF EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN U.S. HAS MADE VERY DEEP IMPRESSION AND HAS SHATTERED IMAGE WHICH, BEGRUDGINGLY, THEY ACKNOWLEDGED OF U.S. AS A MORAL AND POSITIVE FORCE IN WORLD. AS

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Bamako 1865-
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PAGE 02 BAMAKO 01865 081354Z

ONE MINISTER EXPLAINED, THESE SITUATIONS EXIST ELSEWHERE BUT BUT WE EXPECT MUCH MORE FROM U.S. MORE EDUCATED LEADERSHIP READILY MAKES DISTINCTION BETWEEN U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND ITS EFFORTS TO CORRECT INJUSTICES, AND RACIST AND REACTIONALLY ELEMENTS AMONG AMERICAN POPE, WHICH THEY TEND IDENTIFY WITH KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

4. IN ADDITION GIVING VENT TO GENUINELY FELT INDIGNATION, EDITORIAL UNDOUBTEDLY SERVES SOME FUNCTION OF IDEOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION IN SITUATION WHERE TO MANY MALIANS, IDIOLOGY SEEMS REMOTE ABSTRACT THING. AS SUCH, CAPITALIZING ON EMOTION OF MOMENT, IT SEEKS TO DRIVE HOME SOME BASIC TENTS OF REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGY IN EXTREME FORMULATION NOT NECESSARILY SUBSCRIBED TO BY ALL OF MALIAN LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THIS EDITORIAL EFFORT CAN BE DISTINGUISHED FROM NEWS TREATMENT, WHICH IN TODAY'S L'ESSOR CONTINUES RELATIVELY FACTUAL AND BALANCED. WE DOUBT THAT THERE WILL BE REPETITION THIS IDEOLOGICAL ATTACK ON SAME LEVER OF INTENSITY UNTIL ANOTHER DRAMATIC MOMENT GIVES OPPORTUNITY TO IDEOLOGUES TO STRIKE WHILE IRON IS HOT.
MOORE

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Po/6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01787 081155Z

44

ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20,H 02,NSC 10,P 04,USIA 12,CPR 02,RSR 01,RSC 01,067 W

R 081042Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3386

UNCLAS CONAKRY 1787

A MEMORIAL MASS FOR SENATOR KENNEDY WILL BE HELD IN THE
CONAKRY CATHEDRAL AT 1700 JUNE 10.
MCILVAINE

Conakry
1787
06/04/68

MICROFILMED BY 88/R

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Pol 6 US/ Kennedy, Robert F

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

8 JUN 68 18 09z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: AMEMBASSY, LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE

FOR Ambassador from Holmes

REF: LUSAKA 2024 and 2026

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination

1. We have urgently passed on contents reftels to Ambassador Banda and added our own strong concern that ~~XXX~~ lack accurate information in Zambia concerning Kennedy assassination could conceivably lead to demonstration against our embassy in Lusaka or other unfortunate developments which could seriously harm relations between our two countries. Suggested that Ambassador might wish send urgent message to his govt. placing assassination in proper context in effort head off highly inaccurate interpretations being placed upon it in Zambia.

2. Ambassador, who had not yet seen text Kaunda's statement, obviously shaken by its import. Stated that he had already sent message yesterday re assassination in order counteract misguided reactions on part some GRZ officials which had come to his attention

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

Drafted by:

AFSE:EWHolmes:md 6/8/68

Tel. Ext.

2287

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF

TH E. Quimby
Thomas Quimby

Clearances:

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(he specifically mentioned in this respect Mainza Chona's statement cited ~~XXXXX~~ Lusaka 2022). Expressed deep appreciation our bringing matter to his attention and promised give urgent attention to steps he might take to help correct situation. Will come to Dept. Monday morning to discuss matter further.

END.

RUSK

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Pol 6 US / Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02026 081124Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, RSR 01, AID 28, /112 W
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P R 080955Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2842
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2026

SUBJECT: KAUNDA ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT KAUNDA PUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSASSINATION SQUARELY ON USG FOR PROVIDING INADEQUATE PROTECTION. SAW "STRANGE PATTERN" IN THAT "LEADERS WITH A LOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD COULD ONLY BE PROTECTED WHEN THEY WERE DEAD". CHARACTERIZED KENNEDY AS "ONE OF THIS GENERATION'S MOST OUTSTANDING AND DYNAMIC YOUNG LEADERS" AND "ONE OF THE FEW AMERICAN LEADERS WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF WITH THE POOR. KAUNDA REPEATEDLY DECLARED "WE HAVE A RIGHT TO PROTEST" TO USG BECAUSE WE ARE MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF A LEADER. SET SATURDAY JUNE 8 AS DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING AND SUNDAY AS DAY OF PRAYER.

2. FOLLOWING IS EXTRACT FROM GRZ PRESS RELEASE OF AIRPORT SPEECH KAUNDA GAVE ON ARRIVAL HOME FROM VISITS TO KENYA AND UGANDA (QUOTES FROM ORIGINAL):

A. ON THE DEATH OF LATE SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, PRESIDENT KAUNDA SAID THE SAD WORLD HAD LOST ONE OF THIS GENERATION'S OUTSTANDING, DYNAMIC AND YOUNG LEADERS.

B. "WE MUST MAKE OUR VIEW KNOWN TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT", HE SAID. "WE FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THAT LEADERS OF THAT TYPE - FIRST IT WAS JOHN KENNEDY, SECOND MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND NOW BOBBY KENNEDY - CAN BE ASSASSINATED AT ALL".

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C. DR. KAUNDA WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE SAW A VERY STRANGE PATTERN WHERE OUTSTANDING LEADERS WITH A LOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORLD COULD ONLY BE PROTECTED WHEN THEY WERE DEAD.

D. " I HEAR THAT THERE WERE 500 POLICE OFFICERS AT THE AIRPORT", HE SAID "ONLY TO RECEIVE A DEAD BODY. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO COMPLAIN BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT IN THE PERSONS OF JOHN KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ROBERT KENNEDY WE LOST MEN WHO WILL NEVER BE REPLACED AT ALL".

E. PRESIDENT KAUNDA SAID HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE KENNEDY FAMILY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE AMERICAN POLITICS BECAUSE THERE WAS ONLY ONE OF THEM REMAINING NOW.

F. "WE REGARD THOSE PEOPLE WHO STRIKE AT THE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AS OUR FRIENDS". HE SAID, " BOBBY KENNEDY WAS ONE OF THE FEW AMERICAN LEADERS WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF WITH THE POOR. FOR A RICH MAN TO COME DOWN AND SPEAK THE VOICE OF THE POOR IS NOT AN EASY THING TO ACHIEVE".

3. ACCORDING OUR NOTES, KAUNDA SEVERAL TIMES USED PHRASES LIKE " WE HAVE A RIGHT TO COMPLAIN", WE HAVE RIGHT TO CONSIDER MEN LIKE THE KENNEDYS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING AS OUR FRIENDS, AND "WE HAVE RIGHT TO PROTEST". SPEAKING OF LACK OF PROTECTION (FOR BOTH PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND HIS BROTHER) KAUNDA SAID "SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE" ABOUT THIS "SHAMEFUL, SHAMEFUL" DEED. ACCORDING RADIO SUMMARY HE NOTED THAT SPECIAL SECRET SERVICE PROTECTION GIVEN REMAINING CANDIDATES BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON WAS ANNOUNCED "TWO MONTHS AFTER THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING".

4. KAUNDA CONCLUDED BY DECLARING SATURDAY A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING WITH ALL FLAGS TO BE AT HALF MAST AND CALLING ON PEOPLE TO REMEMBER KENNEDY FAMILY IN PRAYERS SUNDAY. FOLLOWING HIS CONCLUDING REFERENCE TO SUNDAY AS QUIET DAY OF PRAYER HE ALSO SAID SOMETHING ABOUT "PROTEST", BUT IT NOT CLEAR THIS WAS RELATED.

5. AMONG CROWD OF SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS, PARTY OFFICIALS, MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES IN VIP AREA BEHIND DIPLOMATS WERE SOME (UNIDENTIFIED) WHO SHOUTED EPITHETS LIKE,

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02026 081124Z

"JOHNSON, NUMBER ONE MURDERER," "AMERICANS ARE MURDERERS", AND "MR. AMBASSADOR, ARE YOU A CIVILIZED NATION OR A NATION OF SAVAGES?"

6. KAUNDA CONCLUDED SPEECH BY CALLING ALL TO STAND FOR MOMENT OF SILENCE DURING WHICH SEVERAL PHRASES OF CHINYANJA HYMN WERE BEGUN AND PICKED UP BY CROWD. ACCORDING ONE DIPLOMAT, CHICOM REP APPARENTLY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH AS HE REMAINED SEATED.

7. COMMENT: THOUGH WE UNDERSTAND AND SHARE PRES KAUNDAS DEEP EMOTIONS AROUSED BY THIS APPALLING EVENT, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PRESIDENT'S REMARKS UNWITTINGLY WILL BE VIEWED BY COMMON MAN HERE AS SIMPLY AN INVITATION TO "HATE AMERICA" (WITNESS SPONTANEOUS OUTBURSTS REPORTED ABOVE) AND TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST US EMBASSY. THE EXCLUSIVE EMPHASIS HERE IS THAT AMERICA HAS DEPRIVED THE WORLD OF A LEADER; THERE SEEMS TO BE NO UNDERSTANDING THAT AN INSANE ALIEN NOW CHARGED WITH KILLING HAS DEPRIVED AMERICA OF LEADER. SO WHERE WE SHOULD EXPECT CONDOLENCES WE GET ONLY ABUSE.
GOOD

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Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 042

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02024 081038Z

17
ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, O 02, OC 06,

OPR 02, CCO 00, SY 03, RSR 01, /085 W

O 080842Z JUNE 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2840

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2024

FOR HOLMES AF/SE

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: STATE 178369

FULL TEXT KAUNDA'S AIRPORT ARRIVAL SPEECH AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS NOW IN PREPARATION. HIS REMARKS COULD INCITE DEMONSTRATIONS BUT NO TROUBLE ON HORIZON THUS FAR. KAUNDA DECLARED THAT TODAY SHALL BE DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING. BY ALL MEANS FEED RUPIAH BANDA ALL AVAILABLE FACTUAL MATERIAL, STRESSING WE ARE ALARMED HERE THAT PREVAILING MOTF IS THAT KENNEDY KILLING SOMEHOW WAS SCHEMED BY "THOSE IN POWER." THIS COULD DO SERIOUS HARM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

EXEMPT

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 15319 080525Z

11
ACTION CPR 02

INFO NEA 13,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,0 02,OPR 02,P 04,RSC 01,SS 20,SY

USIA 12,CU 04,SSO 00,RSR 01,1080 W

O 080502Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5843

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 15319

REF: NEW DELHI 15313

Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F

AT ELEVENTH HOUR MINISTER OF STATE BHAGAT OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS CANCELLED HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR
REPRESENTING INDIA AT KENNEDY BURIAL.
WEATHERSBY

NEW DELHI

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Pal 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

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HR Doc 12 Peru

PAGE 01 LIMA 05516 081858Z

44

ACTION ARA 16

INFO SS 20, NSC 10, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, INR 07, RSR 01, RSC 01, /075 W

R 081818Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6371

UNCLAS LIMA 5516

SUBJ: REQUIEM MASS FOR SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

1. BECAUSE OF THE PROFOUND EFFECT WHICH THE DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY HAS HAD IN PERU, THE EMBASSY TOOK INITIATIVE TO ORGANIZE A REQUIEM MASS WHICH WAS CELEBRATED AT 10 OCLOCK THIS MORNING, THE HOUR FIXED FOR FUNERAL SERVICES IN NEW YORK. THE CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA REINA, THE SAME ONE IN WHICH A MASS WAS CELEBRATED FOUR AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, WAS CHOSEN. AN AMERICAN PRIEST THE REVEREND FATHER ROBERT HIELE OFFICIATED, ASSISTED BY A PERUVIAN PRIEST AND SPANISH PRIEST, TO SYMBOLIZE, AS HE SAID, THE INTERNATIONAL CITIZENSHIP OF ROBERT KENNEDY. THE PAPAL NUNCION, MONSIGNOR ROMULO CARBONI, WAS ALSO A PARTICIPANT ON THE ALTAR. THE SERVICE WAS CONDUCTED IN SPANISH, ALTHOUGH FATHER HIELE'S SERMON WAS IN ENGLISH. HIS THEME WAS PEACE, WHICH HE FELT WAS SENATOR KENNEDY'S QUEST, AND HE CHOSE GREEN VESTMENTS FOR THE OFFICIATING PRIESTS TO SERVE AS A SYMBOL OF HOPE.

2. THE EMBASSY SENT SPECIAL NOTIFICATION OF THE MASS TO THE PRESIDENT, THE CABINET, THE LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIARY, AND TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. IT ALSO INVITED THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND PERUVIANS AT LARGE BY PUBLIC MEANS.

3. THE CHURCH THIS MORNING WAS ENTIRELY FILLED WITH AN ESTIMATED 500 IN ATTENDANCE. PRESIDENT BELAUNDE, WHO WAS RECEIVING CREDENTIALS OF TWO NEW CHIEFS OF MISSION, COULD NOT ATTEND BUT WAS REPRESENTED BY AN AIDE. HOWEVER, AMONG THE DIGNITARIES PRESENT WERE VICE PRESIDENT SEOANE, THE PRESIDENT OF SUPREME COURT, THE PRESIDENTS OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE, LABOR AND DEVELOPMENT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, A FORMER

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PAGE 02 LIMA 05516, 081858Z

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER SENATORS, DEPUTIES AND FORMER MINISTERS. MANY MINISTERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE SENT REPRESENTATIVES AS DID THE CHIEFS OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS OF LIMA WAS ALMOST ENTIRELY REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADORS OR CHARGE D'AFFAIRS. OFFICERS OF THE VARIOUS AMERICAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION WERE PRESENT AS WERE A GREAT NUMBER OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND PERUVIANS, HIGH AND LOW, WITHOUT OFFICIAL STATUS. ONE PERUVIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL SENT A COLAR GUARD AND AN HONOR GUARD OF SOME 15 OR 20 BOYS, ALL IN UNIFORM. THE OCCASION WAS IN EVERY WAY SOLEMN AND FITTING, AND THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION WAS HEAVILY REPRESENTED, LED BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRS AD INTERIM, ERNEST V. SIRACUSA.

4. THE EMBASSY HAS REPORTED FULLY THE INTENSITY AND SINCERITY OF THE REACTION IN PERU TO THE TRAGIC DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY. THIS SERVICE THIS MORNING, AND THE REPRESENTATION IT EVOKED, WAS TESTIMONY NOT ONLY TO PERUVIAN FEELING FOR SENATOR KENNEDY AND FOR HIS FAMILY IN GENERAL, BUT ALSO TO THE FUNDAMENTAL WARMTH AND COMMUNITY OF INTEREST WHICH UNDERLIES US AND PERUVIAN RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE IN RECENT WEEKS UNDERGONE SOME STRAIN. SIRACUSA

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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ARMY CIA NAVY

OSD USIA NSA

A-3760

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

FROM : AmEmbassy LONDON

DATE: June 8, 1968

SUBJECT: Selected British Press Comment on Kennedy Assassination

REF : xx Embtel 9659

A sampling of the more significant and thoughtful British editorial comment on Senator Kennedy's assassination is enclosed. We also include some of the typical pieces on the need for gun-sales legislation, a theme which has pervaded all sections of the press here.

BRUCE

Enclosures *llh*
As stated. *llh*

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by:

POL/GGOplinger/ps 6/7/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

POL/WHBrubeck *llh*

Clearances:

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

BUREAU
OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

1968 JUN 10 PM 4 29

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

To Department of State

ENCLOSURE TO LONDON A- 3760



PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE LONDON E.C.4 TELEPHONE 01-236 2000

A MINORITY OF ONE

It is natural to see the attack on SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY as part of a general pattern of violence in the United States and in the world. Yet before one generalizes one should particularize. This is a hateful tragedy for a man whose courage had made him the only white politician who still commanded the confidence of the Negroes and the poor of America. It is also a family tragedy for a family who have already had too many tragedies to suffer. The shooting of SENATOR KENNEDY is one of those stark events which will always be remembered with pain.

Yet the personal tragedy is a reflection of a wider tragedy. For whatever reasons violence is a growing power in the United States. For at least half a century American civilization has been subject to increasing violence, to the violence of gangsters, the casual violence of the southern states, the violence between races and now to the murder of public men. The rest of the world has often seen the United States as the vanguard of industrial society. In almost every other country the same pattern of growing violence can already be detected even though in Britain it has not reached anything like the same level.

It is natural that violence in politics should often be concentrated upon the best men. The motives of the men who shoot are usually abnormal and often obscure. The Arab in this case seems almost astonishingly irrelevant to Senator Kennedy's career. Yet one can see what the reaction is. There is in part the hatred which is the natural reaction of evil to excellence. There is in part, also, an envy which the best statesmen are more likely to provoke. The excitement of a fine political campaign is also in itself a danger. The man with the gun responds to this excitement with the excitement of his own hatred. He shows what can be done by a minority of one.

Yet those men who wish to raise themselves by destroying what others admire are alienated from society and are to be found in large numbers only in a society where alienation is common. In the United States prosperity has become an insult to those who do not share it and the process of specialization which has created such

an extraordinary prosperity is by its nature also a process of exclusion. American industry is based on mass skills, but not on universal skills, and violence is the revenge on society of those who are left out.

The paradox is that it has been the chief aim of the Kennedy family in politics to bring to an end the social alienation in the United States. PRESIDENT KENNEDY was the first Roman Catholic to become President of the United States. His victory was to some degree a victory for all the other minority groups. The purpose of the campaign of 1960, in which SENATOR KENNEDY played so large a role, was not only to get America moving but to involve all Americans in the movement. PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S work on civil rights went further than the Kennedy administration had been able to do, but the social impetus of the Democratic Party owes a great deal to both of the Kennedy brothers.

In the case of SENATOR KENNEDY this social concern became even more marked. His is a crusading personality and the crusading quality has cost him many political allies. There is no doubt that the shock of his brother's death caused in SENATOR KENNEDY'S mind a new desire to see American society changed. It is the characteristic of this meaningless violence that it is turned against those men like the Kennedys or MARTIN LUTHER KING who devote their lives to the task of reconciliation. They are the most likely of all to be attacked or to be killed.

The characteristics of American society which led to the death of one Kennedy and the wounding of another are in part peculiar to the United States. We have no powerful lobby in Britain for the promiscuous sale of firearms and the power of the National Rifle Association is an extraordinary defect of American politics. Yet in the main the growth of violence, like the growth of revolution, is something which reflects real failures of all the advanced industrial societies, irrespective of whether those societies are American or European, or even whether they are capitalist or communist. Our attitude in Britain can therefore only be one of sympathy with the people of the United States in the tragedy which has occurred.

A SECOND KENNEDY

Daily Telegraph, June 6

"THERE are no words equal to the horror of this tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with Senator KENNEDY, his family and other victims. All America prays for his recovery." In this moving message President JOHNSON spoke for decent people everywhere, not only for Americans but for people of all nations, not only for those who loved ROBERT KENNEDY and shared his expressed ideals but also for all those for various reasons opposed to him. Friend and foe alike stand silent and appalled; controversy is stilled; the election campaign, in which ROBERT KENNEDY had just won a victory, grinds to an awestruck halt.

Mrs. JACQUELINE KENNEDY is said to have had some grim premonition that ROBERT KENNEDY would be shot down. If she sees the hand of fate in what has now occurred, who shall blame her? It is not five years since her own husband, President JOHN F. KENNEDY, died murdered in her arms. His older brother JOSEPH was killed in 1943 in a Liberator crash and the youngest brother, EDWARD, was nearly killed in an air crash four years ago. It is as though a curse hung over the whole family, in some respects the favourites of fortune, in others its pitiable victims.

It is a family which has always aroused passionate controversy. None was left indifferent by its rise to power and glory. To some it seemed to embody all that was young and hopeful, ardent and chivalrous in American public life. President KENNEDY's circle at Washington was likened without irony to the court of King Arthur; it seemed to have attracted to itself all that was generous, enlightened and intelligent in the nation. In other hearts, however, the KENNEDYS awoke a sour and suspicious envy, generated not so much by their wealth (not usually a disadvantage in American politics) as by their collective ambition and their apparent determination to form some sort of dynasty. Alike to those who feared and those who worshipped them, they appeared an irresistible force, predestined to govern America, one or another, now or later.

ROBERT KENNEDY must often have been warned of the dangers he ran. But what else could he do but face them, without being untrue to his destiny as he saw it? President THEODORE ROOSEVELT once said: "I do not believe there is any danger of any assault on my life, and if there were it would be simple nonsense to try to prevent it; for, as LINCOLN said, though it would be safer for a President to live in a cage, it would interfere with his business." ROBERT KENNEDY did not share ROOSEVELT's confidence in his own immunity; but he must have realised that a candidate can no more live in a cage than a President. To win trust one must show trust; no affection or respect, no votes are to be gained by those afraid to mix freely with the people. Thus he sallied boldly forth, taking no precautions, virtually unguarded, surrounded everywhere by crowds so vast that a thousand assassins might have lurked undetected among them; and has alas paid a terrible price.

It is easy to understand the shame and guilt by which Americans are assailed when they contemplate the blood which has recently stained their public life—the blood of a President, the blood of a great and pacific Negro leader and now the blood of ROBERT KENNEDY. They must wonder if there is some dark violence in the American soul of which other nations are innocent. Can this really be true? In few countries of the world are the style and temper of politics usually more civilised, the courtesies of debate more generally observed, opponents more tolerant of each other. That all this should be smirched and obscured by the crimes of a few is unfair in every respect save one. This is that America has so far conspicuously failed to disarm those who are unfit to have control of weapons. The right of every citizen to carry a gun was born in times when food had to be shot and Indians lurked behind every tree. Once the ally of order, this right has survived to become its mortal enemy. Surely it must be extinguished.

DISRAELI once remarked that assassination has never changed the history of the world. He may have been wrong about the very assassination which provoked his words—that of LINCOLN. Certainly it is probable that violence breeds violence, that one death may lead to others and that the act of a maniac may inflame the passions of sane men. General breast-beating will do no good: only the law can take the gun out of American life.



PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.4. TELEPHONE: 01-236 2000

HE STOOD FOR JUSTICE

The world knew ROBERT KENNEDY by sight and liked what it saw. People everywhere thought they knew what he stood for—justice for the underdog, tolerance between races and nations, understanding for youth, compassion for the old and deprived. They believed he was a worthy successor to his brother, and that was consciously meant as the highest tribute. If American presidents were elected by the suffrage of all countries ROBERT KENNEDY would have gone to the White House next January.

Of course the universal view was not a complete one. Men find themselves—sometimes almost by chance—cast for roles of heroes and villains, and those are the roles they have to play. His fellow Americans were divided over which of the two ROBERT KENNEDY really was. Some of them hated ROBERT KENNEDY as much as they hated JOHN. Now both brothers have been murdered. It is a terrible fate—terrible for the family; terrible for America; and terrible for the world.

ROBERT KENNEDY had many qualities, good and bad, but they were all touched with an element of greatness. His death leaves an enormous gap, and the problem is how that can be filled. In a way, the least important part of this is who will get the Democratic nomination in the autumn. Probably ROBERT KENNEDY would not have got it anyway, and even if he had got it might well not have won the election. And if he had won the election he might not have proved a good president. Was he temperamentally suited to the job? Is not America's need now to find a reconciler, which is something ROBERT KENNEDY could never have been? These have ceased to be questions for the prophets and become footnotes for the historian.

What is important is the effect of ROBERT KENNEDY's death on his followers. He had lost some of his earlier

disciples—among the young, particularly the young students. But he had found new disciples. The Negroes, other second-class racial groupings like Mexicans and Puerto Ricans, the very poor of all races, had made ROBERT KENNEDY their candidate; more than their candidate, he was their apostle. They are not going to turn easily to SENATOR MCCARTHY or MR. HUMPHREY—certainly not to a Republican. Is the election going to see a large proletariat disfranchised by its own choice? This is a real prospect, and a most alarming one. Americans are desperately trying to rediscover faith in their own destiny and institutions. With both Kennedys murdered some Americans will be tempted to say that their country's institutions are a sham and its destiny a mirage.

The rest of the world will be tempted to turn away from America too. Each fresh act of violence spreads fresh doubt about American capacity for leadership. This is not hypocrisy. America has more money, more power, more skills, more weapons, than any other country in the world. For over twenty years she has exercised this unique responsibility with restraint and generosity. The American people accepted the obligations of leadership. But now? The habit of assassination destroys the authority of any country.

Americans have huge reserves of intelligence and resource. One of the best things ROBERT KENNEDY did was to remind them of this, because he profoundly believed it to be true. Who will be able to convince them that it is true now? Certainly, America will survive ROBERT KENNEDY's death as it survived his brother's. But the main question for 1968 is now no longer who is to be next president, but how that survival is to be achieved.

Kennedy victim of his nation's eroded ideals

Something like mass hysteria may be threatening America as a great dialogue of conscience breaks out after the killing of Senator Kennedy. The laxity of the law on gun control is only one result of the American system of compromise politics—a system to which the murdered candidate himself had deferred in the course of his campaign.

From LOUIS HEREN

WASHINGTON, JUNE 6

A man who challenges the King must die. Senator Eugene McCarthy thus explained his challenge to President Johnson and his determination to go on even until defeat and oblivion, but it was America's most splendid and ambitious political prince who died by an assassin's hand.

With him, the Kennedy restoration may have died. It is possible that presidents will not be challenged by this powerful family again. What some have seen as its awful curse did not deter Robert; but Edward, the one surviving brother, seems content with his lesser liefdom.

After his almost miraculous escape from an aircraft disaster (a brother and sister also died in air crashes) he is the senior Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the age of 36. His attention to duty now commands respect. He is clearly a candidate for an important committee chairmanship and the inner club, the small group of men who control the Senate and thus much of the legislative business of the United States Congress.

This has not discouraged suggestions that he would make a good vice-presidential candidate. Such is the power of the family name that a Humphrey-Kennedy ticket is seen as a sure winner for November.

The princely splendour of the Kennedys was evident again in the respect paid by the President and the princes of his church. A White House aircraft brought Robert Kennedy's remains from Los Angeles, and solemn Masses were offered in the Roman Catholic cathedral of Washington and New York.

Much of the business of government came to a standstill and everywhere flags flew at half-mast. Senator Kennedy is to be buried on Saturday in his brother's grave, which dominates Arlington National Cemetery.

It is by the mansion from which General Robert E. Lee rode away in 1860 to fight for Virginia, another of the republic's great tragic figures. It looks across the Potomac to the seat of American super-power where Robert Kennedy assumed, with the arrogance of a political prince, that he would sit next January.

Horrible symmetry to age of violence

All of that has been exploded by a young Jordan immigrant with a .22 pistol first bought, it has been stated, by some frightened man after the Watts riots in Los Angeles. The casual coincidence provides a horrible symmetry to an age of violence that now threatens mass hysteria.

Perhaps it is possible to see Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as an instrument of revenge against the Palestine policy of President Truman, or as a crazed anti-Semite, but he left Jerusalem when a boy and is said also to have envied the rich and successful.

The *Washington Post* said: "If the shooting of Senator Kennedy should bring sensible gun laws, so much the better; the need for them, however, does not stand on one, or three or three hundred homicides by firearm; it stands on the record in every American city; every night."

Only a month ago Senator Edward Kennedy said: "It

amazes me that we continue to tolerate a system of laws which make it so outrageously easy for any criminal, insane person, drug addict or child to obtain lethal firearms which can be used to rain violence and death on innocent people."

Alas, there is no cause for amazement. The continuing stupidity over gun laws is only part of the larger system under which the United States has been governed so long. It is no more of a cause for amazement than the brutal fact that the wealthiest country in the world permits millions of Americans to starve.

Stupidity flourishes in the system

A television network recently broadcast a report on starvation among Red Indians, Negroes and white tenant farmers within an hour's drive of Washington. The immediate response of Mr. Orville Freeman, the Secretary of Agriculture, was to demand equal time for a refutation.

All this and much more is not due to brutal indifference but is the price paid for national unity. It is a heavy price, but almost unavoidable because of congressional consensus politics.

There is no three-line whip. Members are thus more exposed to pressures, and urgent reform can be compromised out of existence in the search for consensus. For instance, liberals such as Senator Wayne Morse and Senator Frank Church are as much to blame as the National Rifle Association for the fact that lunatics and fanatics can still buy arms.

These representatives come from spoiling states and believe that their political survival depends upon the rejection of gun control. For the sake of this or some future consensus a majority of their colleagues have been prepared to do just that or accept a useless compromise.

The Bill passed by the House of Representatives today provides for some measure of control, but not nearly enough.

Consensus politics has another meaning when the President seeks a popular consensus wide enough to persuade a reluctant Congress to enact reforms. This is what Senator Robert Kennedy was seeking to establish during the primary campaigns.

He compromised his own ideals along the way because many of the people he sought to lead were opposed to change. He was thus as much a part of the old as the new politics, but his ideals were never quite abandoned. Had he lived, and gone on to win the election in November, his Administration almost certainly would have been as cautious as his brother's, but a little progress would have been made.

Instead, the prejudice and indifference which the American system of government is so ill-equipped to diminish has claimed him as another victim, and the country is preparing for what could be described as a state of siege.

The Army's Directorate for Civil Disturbances Planning and Operations has been in a state of alert since yesterday morning, the California National Guard has 26,800 men ready for deployment in the streets, and 10,000 regular troops are standing by outside Washington.



AND
MORNING POST

DAILY TELEGRAPH - - - June 29, 1855

MORNING POST - - - November 2, 1772

[Amalgamated October 1, 1937]

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1968

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INDEPENDENT OF ALL GROUPS

AMERICA ON TRIAL

SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY is dead. The eulogies have been spoken. All civilised countries have been revolted by the cruel murder of a gifted man who was the leading hope not only of a family which has already suffered greatly but also of many millions of Americans who saw in him—rightly or wrongly—a golden champion. He was to have been the man who would do battle for the unrepresented in the great struggle for civil rights, who might have bound up the rift between black and white in the United States, who might have led his fellow citizens in a determined attack on poverty, who might have been successful in negotiating a peaceful settlement in Vietnam. These claims, made on his behalf, were large indeed: perhaps too large.

Be that as it may, the obsequies cannot last for ever. The government of great nations cannot, must not, be long affected by the death of a single man, however eminent and however aspiring; and the immediate task before the people of the United States is the election of their next President. And, after the second KENNEDY assassination, it seems certain that the imposition of the rule of law in the United States will become an attractive theme for Mr. NIXON to begin embroidering before many weeks are out. The central issue could become "strong government."

What the Democrats will reply to that is by no means clear. There is at least a chance that, of the supporters of the late Senator KENNEDY, the mild, Leftist, scholarly and humanitarian will prefer to back Senator EUGENE MCCARTHY at the Chicago convention rather than Mr. HUBERT HUMPHREY. Although regarded by his own party as a dangerous radical 10 years ago on the civil rights issue, Mr. HUMPHREY has for the protesters become tarnished by his close association with the JOHNSON administration. As far as the restive millions who saw ROBERT KENNEDY as their idol are concerned, the risk of further rioting and bloodshed is great. It must seem to them, after three assassinations in five years, that anyone who becomes their advocate will be gunned down. The main responsibility for assuaging the nation's fears must now fall on Mr. HUMPHREY and Senator MCCARTHY.

Whichever of the two men is chosen—and the odds must now be heavily on Mr. HUMPHREY, the senior in experience of both politics and government—it should be made plain to the American electorate that the ideals and ambitions which motivated the KENNEDY brothers did not die with them. Otherwise, worse times might befall. And it will, of course, be a prime duty of any new administration to break the deadlock in Congress on arms legislation. That will not be easy, because fear engenders fear; but, after this week's dark events, the majority of Americans must realise that the freedom to bear arms endangers greater freedoms.

THE GUARDIAN

London

Friday June 7, 1968

Will the world learn anything?

Many deserved tributes have been paid and will be paid to Robert Kennedy. President Johnson has spoken of the "tragedy and senseless violence" that brought his death. The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that, in the horror at this event, "we shall renew our efforts in the cause of just and non-violent solutions of our human problems." The Swedish Foreign Minister has spoken of "a defeat not only for American democracy but for democratic values as such." The Prime Minister of New Zealand has said that "for the United States to lose its gifted men in this way is a sad distortion of the freedoms which they in turn have fought to preserve." In Cairo, the Government's official spokesman has condemned the killing of Senator Kennedy, "whatever the nationality of the assassin may be." In Britain, the President of the Zionist Federation has said that "all who love peace pray that Robert Kennedy will not have died in vain, that the message of cooperation, of brotherly love, and of righteousness that he so courageously preached will echo down the ages."

Will that message, in truth, find any echo in the Middle East? Will a genuine effort be made on both sides to stop the war in Vietnam? Will a "just and non-violent solution" be sought in Biafra or south of the Zambezi? Will American democracy (and democracy everywhere) try harder than before to rid itself of lawlessness, hatred, and violence? Shall we, as President Johnson asks, "purge the hostility from our hearts and practise moderation with our tongues"?

The killing of Robert Kennedy had seeds both in the sickness of American society and in international violence. Although much of Sirhan Sirhan's mind and motives remains to be discovered, the Arab-Israeli war and its anniversary were factors. So too was the Vietnam war, which itself has added to the severe strains within the United States. But the question remains: will Robert Kennedy's tragic death change anything in the world? Will the shock lead to any softening of rigid attitudes? In every zone of war or imminent war, the way could be opened for non-violent solutions. Over the Middle East, Vietnam, and Biafra negotiations are being sought; over each a deadlock persists. Over each the lines of

a settlement can be seen, but the willingness to reach it is never sufficiently strong. Over each a change of heart is needed, for the alternative is a relapse into more killing, devastation, and misery.

On the anniversary of the June war, is it impossible for the Arabs and Jews to meet? Mr Jarring's mission seems near its final frustration. Yet more is needed than readiness on the Arab side to meet the Israelis face to face, which so far the Arab Governments have refused, or readiness on the Israeli side to apply in practice the principles of the UN resolution. Both sides must accept in their hearts, not simply in words, that the others have just claims. The Arabs must honestly accept that the State of Israel has a right to exist in peace and security, however unjustly, in their eyes, it was carved out of Arab territory. And the Israelis, no less, must accept in their hearts that the Arabs, even on the West Bank, have the right to rule themselves in their own way and to be treated as fellow-men. The alternative here is another war of vengeance, the possible destruction of Jerusalem (a city revered by people of many faiths), and poverty for Arabs and Jews.

Vietnam calls for changes of heart no less deep. Vietnamese must learn to live with Vietnamese. The Northerners and the Vietcong will have to accept that theirs is not the only admissible form of society and that people in the South have a right to choose something different. In the South, equally, those in authority will have to accept that the National Liberation Front and its members cannot be kept out of civil and political life if peace is to be attained. When families have been torn apart, with brothers and sisters fighting on opposite sides, reconciliation is hard. But just because of such tragic divisions, the value of non-violent reconciliation ought to be the more obvious. And American hearts, too, must change: to understand that, however worthy the motives which took the US forces to Vietnam, the outcome has been terrible human suffering. That, at least, is something which Senator Kennedy himself was directly conveying to his countrymen. It is something that they have begun to understand. Here, at least, we can be sure that his message will not soon be forgotten.

And will the US this time?

President Johnson's decision to set up a Commission on Violence is the least that could be done, now that Senator Kennedy is dead. As a political tactic it is a skilful move, since its members are respected pillars of the American Establishment and weighted to the right. (One of them, Senator Roman Hruska, is chief lobbyist for the notorious National Rifle Association.) But it is hard to see what they can say about violence in America which is not instinctively known by most Americans already. The need now is not for facts, however authoritatively they are pronounced, but for action. And here the Commission has no power.

The recent report of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders is a discouraging precedent. That, too, was produced by a group of eminent Americans. It pointed out the harsh truth that the nation is moving towards two societies, one black and one white, separate and unequal. And the outcome has been inaction. Some, like Mr Nixon, preferred to look away and say that the cause of the riots was not "white racialism," as the Commission reported, but "black lawlessness." Others, like the President, greeted it with a frosty silence.

The last two major assassinations, those of President Kennedy and Dr Martin Luther King, ought to be a reminder that single incidents, however shocking, rarely move nations to make deep and painful changes in their own way of life. Those two murders brought little or no reform.

So, too, with the reports of Commissions. The tools that are really necessary are hard political campaigning and the use of economic and political power. And even this has become harder in the past five years as the contradictions of American society have been more blatantly exposed. Five years ago a summer of demonstrations and mass action in Birmingham, Alabama, brought about the Civil Rights Act of 1963. This summer the Poor People's campaign in Washington is likely to produce at best a legislative mouse—and at worst a stronger white backlash.

It is easy enough to blame a reluctant Congress, as the President has done. But there is already enough legislation on the books for him to bring about major changes, if he is willing. The Federal Government has enormous power over the economy through the contracts it awards. The Defence Department alone has an annual budget larger than that of the People's Republic of China. After the Soviet Union, the Pentagon is the largest centrally planned economy in the world. The President already has Congressional authority to use this power to cut off contracts to firms that discriminate, as had other Presidents before him. Yet it has been used reluctantly and grudgingly so far. The Federal Highway Administration and housing agencies have similar powers. Why are they not used more often? In the last resort, too, the Federal Government will have to create jobs of its own for the millions of unemployed. Private enterprise cannot and will not do so by itself.



Violent America

—Nicky Malin, Jr.

I have watched it become a socially sick nation

by DAVID ENGLISH

NATIONS, like people, can have nervous breakdowns. And America is very near the edge of this situation. Paralysed with fear, tormented by indecision, it is allowing violence—the fatal flaw in the national character—to become the most dominating influence in its life.

In neurotic times, one word is sufficient to trigger off a pointless act of destruction. Yet all through spring and early summer the word "Kennedyism" has been given that built-in potential.

So perhaps it was inevitable that Robert Kennedy would be the victim of one of those sudden and senseless acts of violence that Americans seem to accept as much a part of their daily life as popcorn and apple pie.

For there is a macabre uniqueness about the Kennedys. No other political family in America is capable of attracting such loyalty and admiration; or of fostering such enmity and hatred.

Their very name is a lightning rod for those two extremes of chivalry and viciousness which vie constantly for the control of the American personality.

The extremist opponents of Kennedy—and they are the opponents of all the other legitimate political candidates and everything that is decent and important in America—had focalised such an aura of hatred around that name that it was only a question of time before the lightning struck.

It doesn't really matter who carried the gun in Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel. He was merely the hypnotised victim of a poisoned system.

What does matter is that Americans have not learned the lesson of Dallas—that Jack Kennedy's memory is as dead as his body—and in the name of defending democracy Americans are effectively killing it.

Reflex

For how can a people talk about democracy or expect it to survive when they conduct their affairs in such a climate of unbridled viciousness?

If there is total licence to commit character assassination is it surprising that the real thing becomes a conditioned reflex of the times?

The freedom to poison the mind with hatred and fear, to publish filth and lies about the men wishing to take on the onerous task of leading the country has become blindly accepted in the United States.

God knows, their politics have always been rough but in this decade the rule book was thrown away.

Last month in America, I read articles about Robert Kennedy's life and family motivated by a malice and hatred so pathological that no civilised printer should have handled them.

But there they were. On the bookstalls.

And when I asked how it could happen... I was told "We have the freest Press in the world."

That is always the argument. Freedom must not be interdicted. Not only must there be freedom to oppose a politician: there must be freedom to break him too.

Obsession

No country can really afford the politics of hate. But America, with its obsession with guns and killing, can afford it least of all. It is incomprehensible to the rest of the world that Americans are allowed to go on buying and selling and part-exchanging guns in the name—once again—of freedom.

Why do they do it? The nonsensical argument about the constitutional right of

every citizen to carry arms has been refuted and dismissed a hundred times.

Yet after Jack Kennedy, after Martin Luther King, all attempts to bring the gun-happy psychosis of America under observation, let alone control, died in the lonely backwaters of congressional committee rooms.

Bitter

Only a few days ago, Kennedy faced the guns in Oregon. He had arrived in one of those small but quite beautiful little towns that dot the plains and mountains of the North-West and there in a picnic field were angry and bitter crowds who loathed him and showed it.

They knew that he was supporting a Senate move to introduce registration of guns. So they surrounded him with signs that said "Protect your right to keep and bear arms."

They pushed and hustled the man whose brother—the 35th President of the United States—was murdered with a £5 mail order rifle and they defied him to challenge them.

Of course he did. And he told them how he felt about guns . . . and he had reason to feel strongly, he said. There was murder and violence and senseless killing all over the United States

and he thought that there might be a little less if there was more control of firearms.

It is fascinating what they shouted back.

"You want to be another Hitler," screamed one man. "That's how it all started in Nazi Germany—when they made the people register their guns."

And a woman shouted: "We'll keep our guns and we'll keep our democracy." And she believed what she said.

These are the kind of conditions which stain and rot the fabric of American life. The richest and most powerful country in the world with more potential for good than any other nation is as dangerously ill as yesterday's election victor in California.

Impetus

Ballot boxes are useless if guns are used to carry more weight. The question is whether yesterday's ghastly shooting will break America's self-doubt and give it the impetus to throw off its internal sickness—or whether it will only make it worse.

It is very hard not to believe in America if you have lived there. And yet it is frightening to see, as

I have, the remorseless personality changes which have transformed a confident and thrusting people into a socially sick nation.

Those changes began, I believe, when Lee Harvey Oswald killed Jack Kennedy almost five years ago.

Five years later—as if ordained—his brother lies critically ill, a near parallel victim of the American syndrome of violence.

All yesterday Americans watched their TV sets, traumatised by scenes almost Freudianlike in their similarity to Dallas. They must have cut deep into the national subconscious to recall a nightmare America had chosen too easily to forget.

"Robert Kennedy is a fatalist who won't let anything interfere with his fate," a friend once said. Perhaps his fate is to call America's attention to the need to change before it is too late.

If yesterday's events succeed in doing that, even while fighting for his life, he may finish what his brother set out to start.

This day of irony in a gun-sick society

Daily Mail
June 7

From DONALD McLACHLAN

IT IS an ironic coincidence. But while Robert Kennedy lay with a bullet in his brain, Congress was taking a timid step in the direction of controlling the sale of arms.

Shaken by the shock of the shooting, it hurriedly agreed to bring President Johnson's package Bill dealing with crime to a straight vote tomorrow, and skip the usual committee stage.

The much-watered-down arms section of the Bill simply bans the sale of hand-guns by mail-order.

It does not otherwise interfere with 'the citizen's right to bear arms.'

The Bill is backed by Robert Kennedy, who wanted to go much further to control the violence

which is endemic to the American way of life.

A few seconds before he was shot down he told the election crowd in the Ambassador Hotel: 'We can work together to overcome divisions, violence, disenchantment. We are a great country, a selfless country, a compassionate country.'

OPPONENTS

But there are powerful opponents of Mr Kennedy's determination to limit the spread of guns, which since the turn of the century have killed 750,000 people in the United States—more than the dead in every war America has ever fought.

The strongest lobby in the country is the National Rifle Association which, backed by the arms manufacturers, exists solely for organised resistance to any form of weapons control.

Their immense propaganda

machine attacked Mr Kennedy repeatedly and was given attentive ear by tens of thousands of Americans puffed up by misplaced pride in their bloody and brutal beginnings.

They call it the 'citizen's right to bear arms'—a pointed misinterpretation of the American Constitution. They believe in being permitted to take the law, as they see it, in their own hands.

A few hours after the shooting today about 200 demonstrators marched on the Washington headquarters of the 980,000-strong National Rifle Association. The demonstrators included trade unionists, members of student and religious bodies and representatives of the Poor People's Campaign.

Police stood by as the demonstrators carried banners reading: 'The sound of bullets fills the air,' 'Thank you, NRA, for bringing anarchy a little closer' and 'Stop the violence—stop the NRA.'

Many of them stood under an

inscription on the facade of the NRA building which reads: 'The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.'

Tough gun control has been Mr Kennedy's obsession since his brother, President John Kennedy, was killed with a mail-order carbine.

CHEAP

The arms manufacturers and their dealers have fought it off again and again with good times, girls, and generous donations to the funds of amenable politicians.

So America remains perhaps the only civilised(?) country in the world where you can get yourself a gun as easily as—and sometimes cheaper than—a second-hand watch.

Five pounds and a sixpenny stamp for a mail-order weapon, which gives a licence to kill.

Today there is renewed outcry for fast action by a Congress that

has stood idle. It would be bitter irony if Robert Kennedy has to die for his dream to be realised.

The feeling of those who want control was echoed today by Mr Arthur Goldberg, American Ambassador to the United Nations. He said:

'Our hearts cry out in pain and anguish at this terrible act of violence. Surely by now the lesson that violence breeds violence must be pounded into our heads.'

'Surely by now all agree that there must be an end to killing, otherwise there will be little hope for our country or for the world.'

"What in the name of conscience will it take to pass a truly effective gun control law?"—
President Johnson, May 9, 1968



Sportsmen's lobby may lose at last

BY a tragic coincidence the first small measure towards control of gun sales in America was due to come before the House of Representatives yesterday for consideration.

Its approval now is almost certain—but it is a tiny advance, compared with the controls proposed after President Kennedy's assassination and made more urgent by the shooting of Martin Luther King. It would stop mail-order sales of hand guns and over-the-counter sales to those under 21.

£2.5M fight

That most powerful lobby, the National Rifle Association, has succeeded in pressing out of the Bill—now part of a general package, law-and-order regulation—reference to rifles and shot-guns, and any question of registration of firearms. With 900,000 members, and 8,000 affiliated associations, the NRA has devoted nearly £2.5 millions to defeating attempts to control gun ownership. Besides eroding the present Bill to almost nothing, it has helped to keep the whole issue in a dormant committee stage for four years.

Two million weapons are sold

each year in America and 27 million people own guns—enough to put a gun in half of all American homes. A recent survey showed that two thirds of Americans favour some sort of Federal control and registration of firearm sales; but 55 per cent of white gun owners said they would be prepared to shoot people in a riot. Since last summer's race disturbances, gun ownership, according to another poll, has nearly doubled. This has meant a prosperous time for the country's 400 or more mail-order gunstores; President Kennedy was killed with a rifle bought through the post.

Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut, along with Senator Edward Kennedy, has been the main proponent of control laws.

In 1966 he produced figures to show that where gun laws are weak—they vary from State to State and city to city—a large number of killings are committed with guns. In Dallas 72 per cent of homicides are by shooting; in Phoenix, Arizona, where the laws are also weak, 66 per cent, while in tougher New York only a quarter of all killings are by shooting.

Yet in spite of the two-an-hour deaths by shooting and anguished pleading by statesmen including President Johnson—"What in the name of conscience will it take to pass a truly effective gun control law?"—the guns-for-all lobby conducts bizarre academic arguments to support its position.

In this month's "Guns and

Ammo," for instance, hunting licence figures by State are compared with crime rates to "support the conclusion the crime goes up when civilian gun ownership goes down." In Vermont, with a hunting licence rate of 33,000 per 100,000 there is a "serious crime rate" of only 700 per 100,000 residents; but in New York with a licence ratio of only 3,800 per 100,000, the crime rate is 2,400. That Vermont is rural and empty is not mentioned.

Right to bear arms

More extraordinary is a heavy abstract case argued in the same magazine which explains that the second Amendment to the Constitution—conferring the right to bear arms—"is to prevent the rise of an armed elite superior to the average man." It goes on, "Preventative controls designed to proscribe an inert act on the grounds that it only may result in crime are no more than thinly disguised Bills of Attainder."

Explaining that a bill of attainder condemns without trial for specific offences groups thought in general to be hostile to society, the author, James L.

Glackin, says "six million Jews went to the Nazi gas chambers on a Bill of Attainder signed by Adolf Hitler." From here Mr Glackin goes on to invoke Aristotle.

Summer city riots were more feared by some American gun authorities than another political assassination attempt as the bringer of gun controls. "If the summer remains fairly peaceful," says the magazine "there is still a good chance that controls will centre on mail-order hand guns and on stiffer penalties for their misuse. Pitched battles in the streets, however, would probably result in licensing and registration of all firearms."

Viewed from America Britain's gun rules seem very harsh. Certificates are issued to landowners and farmers to control vermin and other wild life, or for sport. Otherwise, the main route to a certificate is through club membership from which an assessment of competence can be obtained, which helps the police to decide on an applicant's suitability. But sportsmen here—even some who endorse the NRA's efforts in America—do not find our rules too restrictive.

John O'Callaghan

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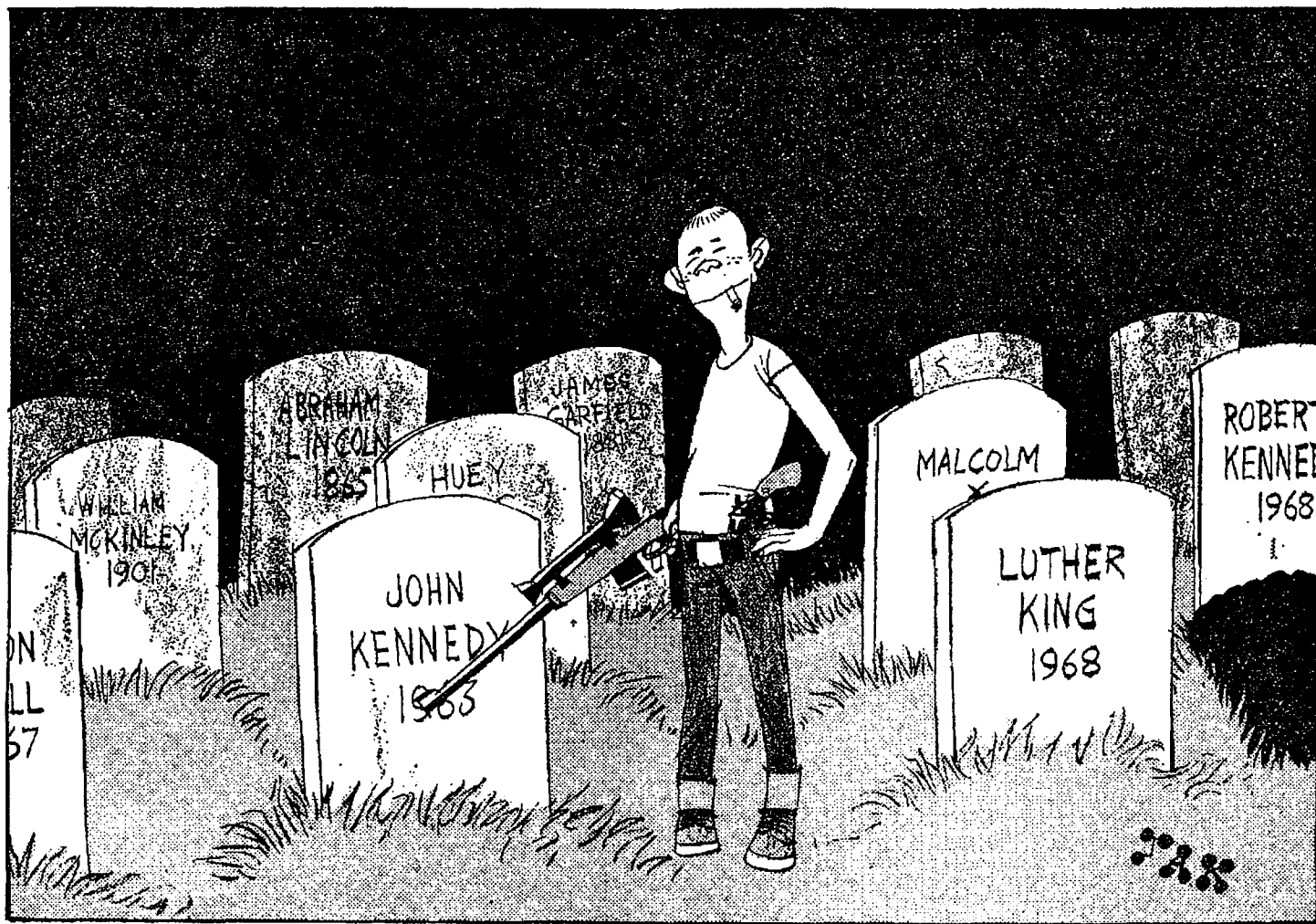
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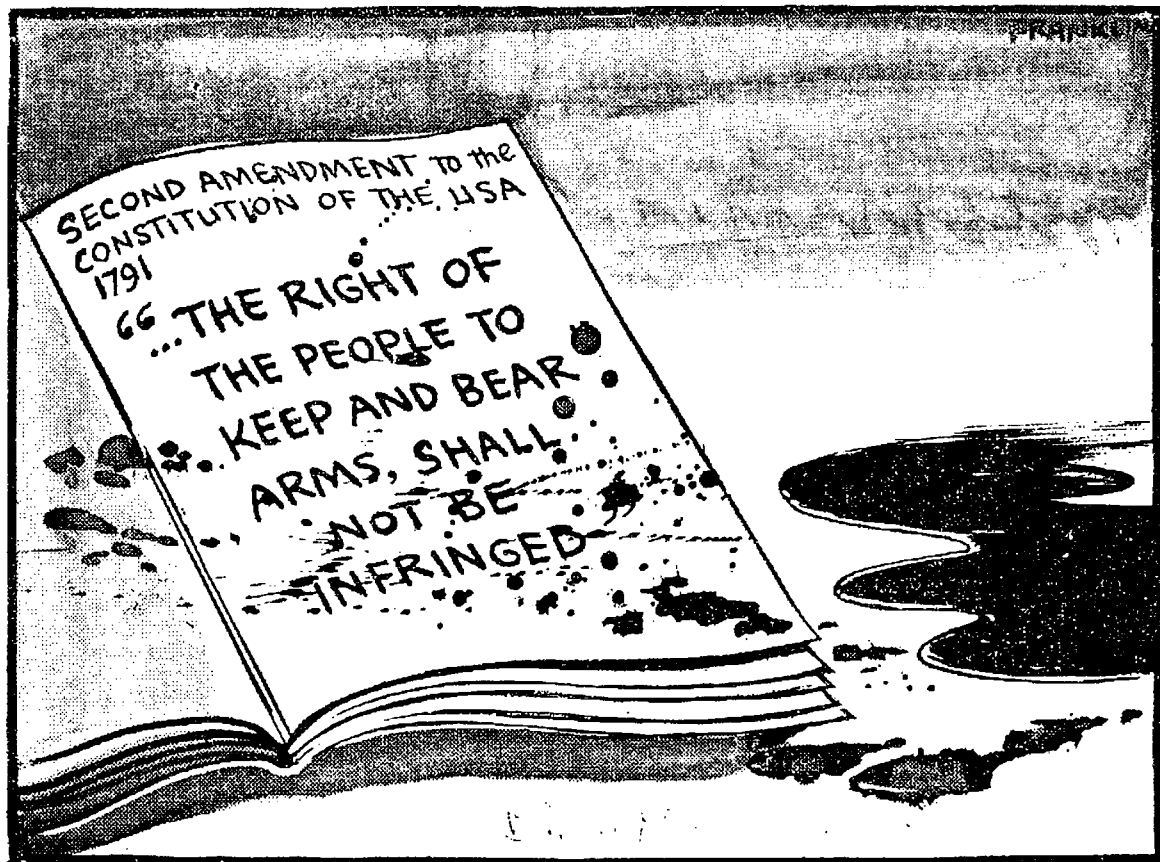
**IS AN AMERICAN CAN BUY
DOUBLE IN TOM QUAD
WITH DOROTHY GISH**

**LONDONER'S
Diary**



"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Second Amendment



Time for another amendment

Attack drives further wedge between races

Times June 6

From LOUIS HEREN—Washington, June 5

There was an awful inevitability about the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy. On more than one occasion, when he was physically possessed by the crowds whose votes he sought, I had thought of his murdered brother and his own submission to a larger fate that was rarely separated from his lust for power.

There was something darkly Irish about this submission. He must have been more aware than most of the increasing violence of American life, and that his name aroused as much insane hatred as love and respect. Then there was the mean envy of those such as Lee Harvey Oswald, of the wealth, success, talent, and good looks with which the Kennedy family is so abundantly blessed.

There is nothing peculiarly American about hate and envy, but they can fester and luxuriate because of the fierce insistence on equality rather than individual liberty in this land of extreme wealth and poverty, opportunity and oppression, and insecurity of the excluded minority groups. It was Senator Kennedy's cruel fate that the nether world of stained sweatshirts, jeans and tattered sneakers was one of his natural allies in his bid for presidential power.

Inevitability did not diminish the shock and widespread shame. Speaker John McCormack exclaimed, "What is this country . . .", the thin, old voice of this other Irish Bostonian was reduced to whimpers. "It's terrible . . . it's indescribable", he declared.

Senator Ralph Yarborough, who witnessed the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, said: "The deep stain of criminality and assassination in American life appears to be aimed at the most brilliant and progressive among us."

Perhaps about the time that Mr. Kennedy was shot, three Negroes entered an all-night diner here and are alleged to have shot and killed two Marine officers and wounded two others. The Negroes said that they had come from California to join the Poor People's march.

In New York, a Negro is being tried on charges of terrorist con-

spiracy. A Negro detective has alleged that the accused belonged to a terrorist cell which plotted to murder Mr. Roy Wilkins, the Negro leader, and then President Johnson.

The shooting in Los Angeles is more than another crime statistic, but it has served to dramatize lawlessness and renew demands for strong counter-measures. I fear that the shooting will also further divide the races.

The demands for Draconian law enforcement are made mainly by whites. Some also seek unconstitutional interference in the right of assembly and petition, but have little enthusiasm for stricter control of guns. Their craving for law and order is tainted by fear and hatred of Negroes.

On the other hand, many Negroes and members of other oppressed minorities see Senator Kennedy as the victim of racism. No matter that the championing of their rights paid political dividends, it swung the California primary vote against Senator Eugene McCarthy, Mr. Kennedy's anguished concern was unquestionably sincere.

This was recognized almost in spite of the jazzy campaigning, the manipulating of crowds and the happenings. Coming so soon after the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, one must assume that the shooting will do more than increase Negro alienation.

The senator's very personality somehow inflamed racial emotions. Unwittingly, he has been a devious force. One coloured lady telephoned early this morning and tearfully sought some comfort, but yesterday, walking along the more fashionable blocks of Connecticut Avenue, I overheard two over-dressed matrons saying the most obscene things about him.

I am not suggesting that the republic is in great danger. It did after all survive the assassination of President Kennedy. The murder of Dr. King brought about an explosive emission of racial hatred and violence, but the burnt-out liquor stores and loan-shark offices on 7th and 9th Street here are the only obvious reminders of those wild nights.

The United States has an immense and fundamental stability, in spite of recent horrors; but the tensions have undoubtedly increased. There is no way of knowing if a breaking point is being approached, or indeed if there is a breaking point; but clearly the country must have leadership. For all his qualities, I do not believe that President Johnson can provide it.

He provided magnificently when President Kennedy was assassinated. It was his finest hour. But the country was fearful of some conspiracy and desperately anxious to be assured of the continuity of presidential rule. Today's shooting is not nearly as tragic. Objectively, it must be said that the senator is a lesser victim of violence than his brother, but some terrible things have happened since November, 1963. President Johnson is not the man, to use his own words, to bind the nation's wounds.

The United States is, however, a democracy. It has reached the half-way mark in a presidential election year of more than usual importance. The shooting, as I have suggested, will enhance violence and race as electoral issues, although the motive of the would-be murderer was probably not racial. It could help to sway the vote in November, and the campaign from now on could prove to be an adequate substitute for leadership. The candidates must rise to the situation.

One of their number has been shot as if the election was being fought in some banana republic and not in the world's oldest and most stable republic. There is the impression that continuing violence is pushing the country into an abyss far more terrible than anything that has been threatened on the streets of Paris.

One must first assume, if nothing worse, that Mr. Kennedy is no longer a candidate. If he survives his grave wounds, and is not permanently incapacitated, a long period of recuperation must keep him out of the race. The consequences within the Democratic Party are not unnaturally already being considered. The obvious questions are where will his popular support and committed state delegations go, to Vice-President Humphrey or Senator McCarthy?

At first glance, it would seem that the combination Mr. Kennedy sought earlier with Mr. McCarthy will now be brought about by his own tragic elimination. Their two followings share a contempt for the party's established order. Both seek a change of leadership and a new direction, and rightly or wrongly Mr. Humphrey is seen as one of the blemished old guard.

His record proves that he is a better man than that, but Mr. McCarthy's popular following could now represent a majority. The combined totals of the Kennedy and McCarthy votes in the primaries are not a true indication of the proportion of disaffected Democrats. Many Negroes and members of ethnic groups will now swing to Mr. Humphrey, if only because without a Kennedy they traditionally rally to established party leaders.

Nevertheless, the Vice-President must now see his fellow Minnesotan as a very real threat. In popular terms at least, Mr. McCarthy is at last a serious candidate.

The division of convention delegate votes is another matter. Mr. Humphrey has claimed that he is close to the 1,312 required for nomination with about 1,000 pledged or promised. In fact, he is at present only sure of 561 and a half votes, and with his narrow victory in California, Mr. Kennedy has 493 and a half. Mr. McCarthy has 255.

What will eventually happen to

the Kennedy delegates' votes is uncertain: these delegations have obviously been released from their obligations to vote for him on the first ballot. He will be on no ballot this year. The assumption is that many will go to the convention in Chicago unpledged to any candidate or as favourite son delegations.

In theory at least the number of favourite son delegates will be greatly increased. With many other delegates still uncommitted, the convention could be thrown wide open.

What in fact will happen is that both Mr. Humphrey and Mr. McCarthy will intensify and extend their efforts to win more delegates' votes before August. The Vice-President has the advantage, but Mr. McCarthy's cause is not hopeless.

Mr. Kennedy soundly trounced Mr. Humphrey yesterday in South Dakota, where he was born. It is unusual for a native son to be defeated in his own state, and the fact that the Vice-President campaigned vigorously there raises some doubts as to his popularity.

Mr. McCarthy did well in California, being beaten by only a few points. He denied Mr. Kennedy a decisive victory in the largest state in the Union, and thus proved that his following was not confined to lesser units such as Wisconsin and Oregon.

The cry heard in the Kennedy headquarters in Los Angeles last night, during the only too brief moments of victory, was "on to New York". Mr. McCarthy has his following there, and if he can win some Kennedy delegates, the party's so-called power brokers may have to review their opinion of him.

As I see it, much will depend upon the behaviour of the two men between now and the convention. They have stopped campaigning, as a sign of respect for Mr. Kennedy, but they will not remain long inactive. The man who can best demonstrate his capacity for leadership, and depth of understanding of the nation's problems, could win the nomination.

There are some who believe that the situation has also changed for the Republicans. Their candidates must have 667 delegate votes for

the nomination, and Mr. Richard Nixon has 392, Governor Ronald Reagan has 110, and Governor Nelson Rockefeller 77.

A good many more delegates are leaning towards Mr. Nixon, and the nomination is within his grasp. This is no cause for great satisfaction for many Republicans, who still question his ability to win independent votes. The polls have shown that he could be defeated by Senator McCarthy.

Thus the reinforced support for the Senator could have uncomfortable repercussions for Mr. Nixon. He has no rivals within the party at present. Mr. Rockefeller has fought a miserable campaign, and Mr. Reagan is not seen to be in the running, but the next round of polls could show many more Republicans crossing party lines to line up with Mr. McCarthy.

These rather mechanistic calculations can be misleading. If the senator is the unwilling beneficiary of the Kennedy tragedy, he is a Liberal pledged to racial reconciliation and social justice. I am not at all certain that they will arouse sufficient enthusiasm among the Democratic convention delegates, who with their opposite numbers in the Republican Party tend to be cautious men.

Apart from the preference of most of them for familiar faces and tried politics, they will, however, be watching the national mood closely. A hardening of racial lines, and demands for law and order at the expense of social justice, will surely swing them behind Mr. Humphrey, the rather unpersuasive representative of the status quo; but widespread revulsion from force and counter-force, and from what would appear to be another four years of consensus politics in the nastiest sense of the term, could win the nomination for Mr. McCarthy. After all, they are Democrats who want to win elections, not Republicans who would rather be right, even if it means defeat.

Little of this was heard today, and certainly not from Mr. McCarthy. When he was told of the shooting, he put his head in his hands and said: "Maybe we should do it in a different way. Maybe we should have the English system of having the Cabinet choose the President. There must be some other way."



59 PL 6 US/Kennedy
Department of State

Robert F
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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, PC 04, EA 10, RSR 01,

/127 W

P 080100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5419
INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 2778

SUBJECT: PRD REACTS TO SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH

REF: SD 2767; SD-2762

SUMMARY

FOLLOWING SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH, PRD PRODUCED SPECIAL PROGRAM JUNE 6 FEATURING SPEECH BY SECGEN PENA GOMEZ IN WHICH HE MADE PREDICTABLE BUT NONETHELESS UNWELCOME STATEMENTS LINKING SENATOR'S DEATH TO SAME "OBSCURE FORCES" WHO KILLED HIS BROTHER AND REV. KING. PENA GOMEZ VERY PESSIMISTIC RE US AND WORLD FUTURE, SAID THESIS OF PEACEFUL REVOLUTION DIED WITH ROBERT KENNEDY; NOW PENTAGONISTS AND RACISTS MUST AWAIT INEVITABLE VIOLENT EXPRESSIONS MASS INDIGNATION. PRD SENATORS CASIMIRO CASTRO, MAXIMO LOVATON AND GIL MORALES ALL MADE STATEMENTS, WITH CASIMIRO'S AND GIL'S ON DECIDEDLY CRITICAL SIDE. SANTO DOMINGO MAYOR BAEZ ACOSTA VOICED TYPICALLY FATUOUS REMARKS (SD-2767); SANTO DOMINGO AYUNTAMIENTO NAMED STREET IN ENSANCHE ESPAILLAT FOR ROBERT KENNEDY; SANTIAGO PRD STALWARTS JOSE VEGA AND VIRGILIO MAINARDI MADE SURPRISINGLY EXAGGERATED STATEMENTS, WITH BOTH CLAIMING SEE "DECOMPOSITION" US SOCIETY, AND VEGA END OF MEANINGFUL US ELECTORAL PROCESS; AND JRD SAW NO ROAD OPEN TO DOMS BUT VIOLENT REVOLUTION. 1. IN LENGTHY AND EMOTION-CHARGED JUNE 6 SPEECH, PENA GOMEZ SAID FOLLOWING:
A. BULLET KILLING ROBERT KENNEDY ALSO KILLED HOPES MILLIONS

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THROUGHOUT WORLD WHO SAW IN HIS CANDIDACY HOPE OF REDEMPTION AND BEGINNING OF END OF INTOLERANCE, INJUSTICE AND DISCRIMINATION WITHIN US BORDERS.

B. SAME "OBSCURE FORCES" KILLED ROBERT KENNEDY, REV. KING, AND "CHE" GUEVARA; SAME FORCES WHO DESTROYING TEMPLES IN VIET-NAM KILLED ROBERT KENNEDY, HOPING DELAY MARCH OF HISTORY; AFTER HE WON CALIFORNIA PROMARY, BECAME DEADLY THREAT TO GENERALS AND MONOPOLIES MANUFACTURING WARS AND GOLPES THROUGHOUT WORLD, AND FOR FANATIC RACISTS IN US.

C. AFTER JOHN KENNEDY DEATH, US NEGROES WHO SOUGHT PEACEFUL SATISFACTION THEIR DEMANDS HAD TWO GREAT LEADERS; MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ROBERT KENNEDY; ONE DISCRIMINATED NEGRO, OTHER RICH LEADER OF WHITES OF GOOD WILL.

D. NOW ROBT KENNEDY DEAD, AND WITH HIM LIES; HOPE OF PEACEFUL REVOLUTION IN LA; HOPE OF PEACE IN VIET-NAM AND WORLD; HOPE OF JUSTICE FOR NEGROES; FAITH MILLIONS HAD PLACED IN US DEMOCRACY. LAST GREAT VOICE US PEOPLE STILLED; LAST LIGHT EXTINGUISHED. SILENCE AND DARKNESS REIGN IN LAND OF SKYSCRAPERS. LIGHT WILL SOON RE-ILLUMINATE US, BUT WILL BE MOMENTARY LIGHT GIVEN OFF BY SPARKS OF VIOLENCE; BATTLECRY OF MULTITUDES WILL SHATTER SILENCE IMPOSED BY ARMS ON VOICE OF REASON.

E. ROBERT KENNEDY REPORTEDLY IRRITATED WHEN SEN. MCCARTHY ACCUSED HIM PARTICIPATING 1965 DECISION INTERVENE IN DR. BOTH MEN VIGOROUSLY REPUDIATED INTERVENTION IN DR; BUT ROBERT KENNEDY MORE THAN ANYONE REJECTED IT BECAUSE IT WAS IN DR WHERE FORCES PROVOKING MARTYRDOM OF DALLAS FIRST FOUGHT JOHN KENNEDY, WHEN INSTITUTED OVERTHROW JUAN BOSCH AND WITH HIM HOPE OF REVOLUTION WITH LIBERTY. BOSCH AND PRD THEN VICTIMS OF EMPRESSARIOS OF EXPLOITATION AND CRIME THAT SACRIFICED PRES. KENNEDY IN TEXAS AND OF LYNDON JOHNSON, THE BENEFICIARY OF THAT CRIME. PRD KNEW ROBERT KENNEDY WOULD NOT BETRAY HIS BROTHER'S LEGACY, WOULD NOT SELL OUT TO ALL-POWERFUL MASTERS HIS NATION, AND SO PRD REJOICED OVER HIS CANDIDACY.

F. SEN. MCCARTHY A SERIOUS RIVAL FOR SEN. KENNEDY, BUT LACKS YOUTHFUL VIGOR AND CHARISMA OF LATTER. THAT WHY PENTAGONIST GENERAL STAFF DID NOT CONSIDER HIM TRUE ADVERSARY

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AND DANGEROUS AS ROBT. KENNEDY.

G. TWO LESSONS EMERGE: (1) HE WHO LACKS HEALTH PUNISH CRIME WITHIN OWN BORDERS HAS NO RIGHT BE WORLD POLICEMAN;

(2) US MUST TURN INWARD AND SEEK NEW INSPIRATION TO STOP DESTRUCTIVE FORCES LEADING ITS DECOMPOSITION, WHICH BEGAN WITH VIET-NAM WAR, WERE BORN IN OFFICES GREAT COMPANIES PROFITING FROM THAT WAR: WHEN GANGSTERS OF GREAT MONOPOLIES SEE RICHES THREATENED THEY RESORT TO VIOLENCE.

H. TWO KENNEDYS AND REV. KING ILLUSTRIOUS VICTIMS VIOLENT SOCIETY, OF VIOLENT US POWER WHICH IN LAST 5 YEARS HAS EXPRESSED SELF IN PERSONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CRIME.

I. ROBERT KENNEDY DEFEATED BEFORE ELECTIONS HELD, FOR IT CLEAR ARMS AND NOT VOTES DECIDE WHO HOLDS POWER. IN LA WE ELECT PRESIDENTS BY FORCE, AS THEY TAUGHT US; AND SINCE HE WHO SOWS WIND REAPS WHIRLWIND, THEY WHO SOW VIOLENCE WILL REAP VIOLENCE WHEN ALL AMERICAN PEOPLES FROM CANADA TO CAPE HORN APPLY LESSON OF US TEACHERS AND ELECT GOVTS. WITH BULLETS.

J. ROBERT KENNEDY'S VERY PRESENCE, GIVEN CONDITIONS IN US, WAS REVOLUTIONARY, NO MATTER HOW FAR HE INITIALLY INTENDED PROCEED: THAT WHY PRO CALLED HIM ALLY.

K. HYPOCRITICAL MERCHANTS OF DEATH NOW PRAYING IN CHURCH ASKING GOD SPARE US FROM VIOLENCE THEY SOWING ALL CORNERS OF EARTH. THEY PRAYING TO WHITE GOD, BUT VIETS AND NEGROES HAVE THEIR YELLOW AND BLACK GODS AS WELL. ALSO IN SANTO DOMINGO, SPANIARDS FOISTED MYTH THAT GOD ON THEIR SIDE AGAINST INDIANS. THOSE WHO EXPLOIT OFTEN CLAIM HAVE MONOPOLY OF GOD: BUT THEIR PRAYERS WILL NOT SAVE THEM FROM MASSES, WHO SOUGHT PEACEFUL SOLUTION WITH ROBERT KENNEDY BUT WILL SOON RISE TO OUST OLIGARCHY.

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,
RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,SAH 03,AID 28,PC 04,EA 10,RSR 01,
/127 W

P 080100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5424
INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 2778

L. "ROBT KENNEDY TOOK THESIS PEACEFUL REVOLUTION WITH HIM TO TOMB, ALONG WITH ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS, L.A. DEMOCRACY AND ANY MYTHS CREATED IN US TO DELAY INEVITABLE REVOLUTION."

M. "ROBERT KENNEDY WAS PERHAPS LAST OPPORTUNITY REMAINING HIS NATION STOP MAD COURSE TOWARD DISASTER"; BUT PENTAGONISM MORTALLY WOUNDED BY SAME BULLET KILLED SEN KENNEDY, AND WILL NOW SUFFER INEVITABLE DEATH CONVULSIONS. "REST IN PEACE, ROBERT F. KENNEDY, APOSTLE OF PEACE."

2. IN INTRODUCING (REJECTED) JUNE 5 RESOLUTION SUSPEND SENATE SESSION (SD-2767) PRD SEN. GIL MORALES SAID DEATH GREAT LIBERAL CAUSED TERRIBLE IMPACT ON WORLD AND LINKING DESTINIES US AND DR, WONDERED "WHAT WILL BE FATE OF THAT ALL-POWERFUL NATION, AND OF US, WHEN THAT COLOSSUS...FALLS? SEN. MAXIMO LOVATON STATED JUNE 6 THAT SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH WAS DISASTER FOR HUMANITY AND LIBERAL SECTORS IN US; HIS COLLEAGUE CASIMIRO CASTRO SAW ASSASSINATION NOT AS ISOLATED EVENT, BUT AS "EXECUTION OF PROGRAM AIMED AT ELIMINATING LEADERS WHO IN AMERICA STRUGGLING ON CONTINENTAL SCALE FOR NEW TYPE OF LIFE FOR MASSES MADE DESPERATE BY HUNGER AND MISERY," AND ADDED "OFFICIAL CIRCLE IN US NOT DISPOSED PERMIT INTERNAL CHANGES IN US POLITICS."

3. IN SANTIAGO E STWHILE MAYORAL CANDIDATE VIRGILIO MAINARDI REPORTEDLY CALLED ASSASSINATION PRODUCT DECOMPOSITION US

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SOCIETY, AND LAMENTED THAT WAVE OF VIOLENCE AFFECTING MEN IN US MOST CAPABLE EFFECTING CHANGE IN SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND IN POLICY TOWARD LA. FELLOW PRD STALWART JOSE VEGA ALSO NOTED ALLEGED "GREAT SOCIAL DECOMPOSITION" IN US AND OMINOUSLY WARNED RORT. KENNEDY DEATH HAS CLOSED DOORS IN US TO CHANGE BY ELECTORAL PATH: "NOW IT REALIZED (HE SAID) ATTAINMENT OF POWER TO CHANGE STATUS QUO CANNOT BE EFFECTED IN THIS WAY."

4. IN PLAINLY REVOLUTIONARY STATEMENT ON JUNE 7 RADIO PROGRAM JRD SAID SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH " CLEAR MANIFESTATION THAT NEITHER FOR US PEOPLE NOR FOR COLONIZED PEOPLES LIKE OURS EXISTS MOST REMOTE POSSIBILITY ELIMINATING EXPLOITATION OF YANKEE MONOPOLIES BY PEACEFUL MEANS...DOMS HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT BE ALLOWED ACHIEVE POWER THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS, BUT WE DEFINITELY ONLY LEFT ROAD OF VIOLENCE TO PUT END OUR EARTHLY SUFFERINGS."

5. COMMENT: A. EMBASSY REPORTING ABOVE PRD COMMENTS AT LENGTH SO THAT DEPARTMENT WILL BE FULLY AWARE NATURE PARTY'S REACTION AND EXPLOITATION SEN. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION IN EVENT PENA GOMEZ OR OTHER PRD LEADERS NOW IN US SHOULD VISIT WASHINGTON (SD-2762). DEPT. MAY WISH CONSIDER BRIEFING POSSIBLE INTERLOCUTORS OF PENA GOMEZ (FM.G., JOHN RIELLY, PAT HOLT.)

B. PRD'S HIGHLY EMOTIONAL AND VEHEMENT REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH WAS PREDICTABLE. MUST, OF COURSE, BE VIEWED AGAINST PARTY'S RECENT INCREASING ATTENTION TO BOSCH'S "PENTAGONISM" THESIS AND PRD'S INTENSE ATTACHMENT OF ITS INTERESTS TO FORTUNES OF US LIBERALS REPRESENTED (TO PRD) BY SENATOR KENNEDY. WHILE STRONG LANGUAGE USED IS PRODUCT OF INTENSE EMOTION AND FRUSTRATION WHICH SENATOR'S DEATH REPRESENTS FOR PRD, IT ALSO REFLECTS SOME PROGRESSION OF PRD POSITION AT LEAST IN PROPAGANDA FIELD TOWARD VIOLENT REVOLUTION. C. CONSUL IN SANTIAGO REPORTED PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH PRD ACTIVIST VEGA IN WHICH NUSTTER (BRACED WITH OWN EXTREME STATEMENTS REPORTED ABOVE) IMPRESSED CONSUL THAT VEGA, AT LEAST, HIGHLY UPSET BY SENATOR'S DEATH, AND HIS STATEMENTS REFLECTED PRIMARILY PERSONAL SHOCK AND CONSTERNATION. D. PRD MAY BE EXPECTED CONTINUE EXTREME REVOLUZIONARY PROPAGANDA LINE AT LEAST DURING ABSENCE PARTY LEADERS IN US, WITH RADICALS JOTTIN CURY AND NAPOLEON NUNEZ ACTING SEC GEN AND PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SEC. RESPECTIVELY, AND "RAFA" GAMUNDI OUT OF JAIL AND BACK ON JOB AS ORGANIZATION SEC. THIS TRIO REPRESENTS MOST RADICAL HANDS IN WHICH PARTY HAS EVER

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PAGE 03 SANTO 02778 02 OF 02 081427Z

BEEN LEFT EVEN TEMPORARILY.
GP-3 CRIMMINS

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63 Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

4 Pol 7 INDIA 23

UNCLASSIFIED 119

PAGE 01 NEW DE 15313 071449Z

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ACTION CPR 02

INFO NEA 13,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,SS 20,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,0 02

SY 03,P 04,CIAE 00,INR 07,NSAE 00,RSC 01,EUR 15,RSR 01,CU 04,

/088 W

0 071326Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5839

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 15313

REF: STATE 178273, DELHI 15262

1. B.R. BHAGAT, MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WILL DEPART TONIGHT FOR WASHINGTON TO ATTEND BURIAL OF SENATOR KENNEDY, ACCORDING TO MEA.

2. HE IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE NEW YORK BOAC FLIGHT 503 SATURDAY AT 1240 AND TENTATIVELY TO PROCEED FROM KENNEDY AIRPORT TO WASHINGTON, ARRIVING AT 1520. NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON FLIGHT SUBJECT TO CHANGE BUT INDIAN EMBASSY WILL HAVE FINAL SCHEDULE.

3. BHAGAT PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON JUNE 9 AND 10, IN NEW YORK JUNE 11 AND 12 AND TENTATIVELY THEREAFTER GO TO OTTAWA JUNE 13.

4. I REALIZE PROBLEMS BUT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO SEE APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN DEPARTMENT JUNE 10. INFORM AMBASSADOR BOWLES.
WEATHERSBY

NEW DELHI

15313

6/7/68

Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE _____

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination

REF: Lusaka 2015

1. Concerned by your report of ugly mood in Zambia and hope you will keep us informed as situation develops.
2. Do you see any usefulness in our approaching Ambassador Banda here in attempt get him send factual reports?
3. References to assassin should be qualified "suspected" or "alleged" until he actually convicted.

EXEMPT.

RUSK

Drafted by: AFSE:MPHoyt:par 6-7-68

Tel. Ext. 3519

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AFSE - Edward W. Holmes

Clearances:

1/AF - Mr. Runyon (draft)

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Classification



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POL 6 US / Kennedy
Robert F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

PPB 9 BEL

UNCLASSIFIED 272

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, 074 W

R 071710Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6620
USCA WASHDC

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 7134

SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: BRUSSELS 7090

1. BULK OF PRESS COMMENT CONTINUED IN TONES SHARPLY CRITICAL OF ALLEGED ILLS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

2. THERE ALSO WAS TREMOR OF FOREBODING DERIVING FROM FEELING THAT WESTERN EUROPE'S DESTINY IS LINKED TO OURS. (THIS THERE HAS COME THROUGH REPEATEDLY IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL BELGIANS.) MOST PRESS COMMENT IS PUNCTUATED BY NUMEROUS EXPRESSIONS OF GRIEF AT SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH AND SYMPATHY FOR HIS FAMILY AND COUNTRYMEN.

3. MANY PAPERS CARRIED FULL TEXT OF DECLARATION MADE BY AMBASSADOR ON TV IN FRENCH AND DUTCH THANKING BELGIANS FOR THEIR SYMPATHY AT THIS SAD TIME. MOST OTHER PAPERS SUMMARIZED STATEMENT.

4. MOST COMMON THEME WAS AGAIN STRAIN OF VIOLENCE ALLEGED TO RUN THROUGH AMERICAN LIFE AND CHARACTER. INFLUENTIAL LA LIBRE BELGIQUE (CATHOLIC CONSERVATIVE) RAN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL ENTITLED "LAST WARNING" WHICH SUGGESTED THAT "AMERICAN CHALLENGE AS TOPIC OF INTEREST HAD BEEN REPLACED BY "AMERICAN SICKNESS - PLAGUE OF VIOLENCE. REFORM WOULD NOT COME QUICKLY THROUGH PASSAGE OF SOME NEW LAW BUT NECESSITATED "BASIC CHANGES IN THE FAMOUS AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE" TO WEED OUR GLORIFICATION OF VIOLENCE IN TV AND FILMS. LA LIBRE SAID

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07134 071913Z

THAT " OLD EUROPE" WAS WATCHING AN " AMERICAN DISASTER WHICH LEFT HER (ERUOPE) DISTRESSED AND WORRIED AND PLUNGED HER INTO NEW UNCERTAINTIES."

5. DE NIEUWE GIDS (CATHOLIC) REMARKED THAT " DRIVE FOR POWER" SEEMED TO BE ASSUMING PLACE AS " DOMINATING FORCE" IN AMERICAN LIFE. VOLKSGAZET IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED " WAVE OF INTOLERANCE" TOOK SIMILAR LINE, POINTING OUT THAT PRESIDENT'S ACTION IN APPOINTING SPECIAL COMMISSION WAS RECOGNITION BY HIGHEST AUTHORITY OF VIOLENCE AS SPECIAL PROBLEM IN AMERICAN LIFE.

6. GAZET VAN ANTWERPEN (CATHOLIC), AFTER NOTING MASSIVE LOCAL INTEREST IN KENNEDY'S CONDITION UP UNTIL HIS DEATH WAS ACTUALLY ANNOUNCED, HELD THAT AMERICAN PRESTIGE WAS BADLY DAMAGED. U.S. SEEMED TO BE A " STILL SMOKING MELTING-POT OF RACISM," AMERICANS MUST CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST " SICKNESSES" OF THEIR SOCIETY.

7. LA DERNIERE HEURE (LIBERAL) TOOK MORE BALANCED APPROACH, COMMENTING THAT US HAD NO MONOPOLY ON ACTS OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE. PAPER SUGGESTED THAT THOSE WHO SPREAD FANATICISM OF ANY SORT WERE REAL AUTHORS OF THIS HORRIBLE CRIME. KNIGHT

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F
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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, OPR 02, SY 03, O 02, OC 06, CCO 00,

RSR 01, SSD 00, /097 W

O R 070802Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2835

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2015

1. UGLY MOOD DEVELOPING HERE, SPAWNED PARTLY BY IGNORANCE AND TAKING VIEW KENNEDY KILLING "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER." KAUNDA DUE HERE TODAY AT 1630 TO MAKE AIRPORT ADDRESS ON ANNOUNCED THEME OF KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. IT LIKELY HE TOO IS NOT FULLY INFORMED.

2. IF POSSIBLE, WOULD BE DEEPLY GRATEFUL IF EMBASSY KAMPALA OR DAR (WE DO NOT KNOW HIS ITINERARY) COULD GATHER BATCH OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS EMPHASIZING THAT KILLING DONE BY ALIEN, EVIDENTLY AGITATED BY ISSUES TOTALLY DIVORCED FROM AMERICAN DOMESTIC SCENE, AND GET THESE TO KAUNDA BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR LUSAKA WITH FOLLOWING OVERING NOTE FROM ME.

3. "DEAR MR PRESIDENT. I KNOW THAT WITH ALL OF US YOU MUST BE SHOCKED BEYOND BELIEF BY THIS MOST RECENT AMERICAN TRAGEDY. NOT KNOWING WHETHER YOU HAVE HAD TIME TO EXAMINE DETAILED ACCOUNTS OF THE ASSASSINATION, THE ASSASSIN AND HIS PRESUMED MOTIVES, I AM ASKING OUR EMBASSY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH AN UP-TO-DATE FILE OF MATERIAL.

I AM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED BECAUSE THERE SEEMS TO BE A PREVAILING VIEW HERE THAT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WAS "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER" IN THE US. NOT ONLY WILL THIS DO INCALCULABLE HARM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES BUT IT SIMPLY DOESN'T SQUARE WITH ANY OF THE FACTS.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT IN MAKING THIS OBSERVATION I

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DO NOT MEAN TO DIMINISH ONE IOTA THE HORROR OF THE DEED AND
THE IRREPLACEABLE LOSS IT HAS CREATED. YOURS RESPECTFULLY,
ROBERT GOOD, US AMBASSADOR."

GOOD

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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R 071635Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2839

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2022

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN REACTIONS TO SENATOR KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. SUMMARY. STRONG EMOTIONAL REACTIONS TO ASSASSINATION TEND AT BEST TO PUT BLAME ON VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND AT WORST TO SUGGEST IT WAS "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER" IN THE US. POLITICIANS SEEM INCLINED TO MORE RADICAL INTERPRETATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

2. IN ABSENCE PRESIDENT KAUNDA VICE PRESIDENT KAPWEPWE'S FIRST REACTION WAS TO CHARACTERIZE TRAGIC ACT AS "PRIMITIVE, BARBARIC, AND UNDEMOCRATIC". IN RATHER UNANIMATED INFORMAL TELEVISION INTERVIEW LATER JUNE 6, KAPWEPWE REPEATED THIS PHRASE AND, THOUGH NOT DIRECTLY AGREEING WITH INTERVIEWER'S SUGGESTION OF A CONSPIRATORIAL LINK BETWEEN THIS AND MURDERS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND DR. KING, HE SPOKE OF ALL THREE IN CONTEXT OF A SOCIETY THAT MADE IT DANGEROUS TO BE IN FOREFRONT OF LIBERAL LEADERSHIP. IN VIEW OF SUCH EVENTS HE QUESTIONED HOW ONE COULD BELIEVE AMERICAN PROTESTATIONS OF DEMOCRACY AND WORLD LEADERSHIP.

① 3. FILM CLIPS SHOWN JUST PRIOR TO TV INTERVIEW INCLUDED ONE IN WHICH SENATOR KENNEDY ANNOUNCED HIS CANDIDACY BY STATEMENT HE RUNNING FOR POLICIES, NOT AGAINST INDIVIDUALS, BUT ONE CANNOT CHANGE POLICIES WITHOUT CHANGING ADMINISTRATION. ANOTHER SHOWED KENNEDY SAYING WORDS TO EFFECT THAT "FORCES REALLY DIVIDING AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE THOSE IN POWER", THAT REALLY DIVISIVE FORCE WAS PRESIDENT JOHNSON. SUCH QUOTES MAY WELL CONTRIBUTE TO FALSE VIEW HELD BY SOME THAT KILLING MUST SOMEHOW BE SCHEME OF "THOSE IN POWER".

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4. LATTER VIEW EXPRESSED BY WESTERN PROVINCE MINISTER OF STATE PETER CHANDA WHO TOLD TIMES OF ZAMBIA ASSASSINATION WAS "ONLY WHAT COULD BE EXPECTED FROM THE COWBOY GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES". HE WAS CONVINCED THAT MURDER WAS "MASTER-MINDED BY THOSE ALREADY IN POWER". SAID AMERICA PREACHED DEMOCRACY FROM HILL TOPS YET WAS SCENE OF SUCH "BRUTAL, SAVAGE AND UNCIVILIZED MURDER".

5. UNIP NATIONAL SECRETARY AND MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO MAINZA CHONA, BELIEVED ASSASSIN WAS A "MERCENARY" AND THOUGHT MURDER "SHOWS THAT TO SURVIVE AS PRESIDENT OF AMERICA ONE HAS TO BE A THUG".

6. OTHER TIMES INTERVIEWS SHOWED SENATOR KENNEDY HAD ENDEARED HIMSELF TO ZAMBIANS AND, AS ONE CLERGY MAN PUT IT "STOOD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FOR THE NEGROES AND HAD PLANS TO END THE UNSOLVED VIETNAM WAR".

7. ONE TEACHER SAID, "THIS IS A VERY UNCIVILIZED ACT. IF IT HAPPENED HERE THE OUTCRY WOULD BE THAT WE STILL LIVED IN A JUNGLE". ANOTHER SAW IT AS A "CULMINATION OF RACIALISM AND ACTIVITIES OF SELFISH INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE HUNGRY FOR POWER".

8. RADIO ZAMBIA NEWS TALK THIS MORNING PLAYED THEME OF THIS

TO HILT, SPOKE OF CHILDREN BEING BROUGHT UP ON TV GUNPLAY RATHER THAN FAIRY TALES, MENTIONED DEATHS OF BOTH KENNEDYS, KING, EVERS AND MALCOLM X, AND ALLUDED TO AREAS OF COUNTRY UNDER CONTROL OF ORGANIZED CRIME SYNDICATES LIKE MAFIA. IT PORTRAYED AMERICA AS "SICK SOCIETY" WHERE RICH WERE FIGHTING POOR AND BLACK FIGHTING WHITE, WITH IMPLICATION IT WAS TOO LATE TO FIND A CURE. WILL POUCH TEXT.

9. BELIEVE FOREGOING ARE FAIRLY TYPICAL OF THE RANGE OF ZAMBIAN REACTIONS. FEW SEEMED TO NOTICE OR BE INFORMED OF FACT THAT MAN CHARGED WITH MURDER WAS AN ALIEN WHOSE MOTIVE SEEMS UNCONNECTED WITH US DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THE STRONG VISCERAL REACTIONS WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE EQUALLY STRONG FEELINGS OF PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN IDEALS KENNEDY SYMBOLIZED FOR THEM. IN SHORT, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, KENNEDY SEEMED TO REPRESENT HOPE FOR THE REALIZATION OF SUCH IDEALS NOT ONLY FOR AMERICANS BUT

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OTHERS TOO, AND RESENTMENT AT THE FRUSTRATION OF THESE IDEALS
IS DIRECTED AT THE VERY AMERICAN SOCIETY FROM WHICH THEY STEM

10. ACCORDING TO PRESS, PRESIDENT KAUNDA IS EXPECTED DEAL
WITH ASSASSINATION IN SPEECH AT AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM EAST
AFRICA THIS EVENING.
GOOD

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ACTION: Amembassy NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

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REF.: New Delhi 15262

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Robert F

1. Indications are very few countries sending representatives to Arlington. So far we only aware of Ireland and Japan.

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Drafted by: NEA/INC:DHeck:lab 6/7/68

Tel. Ext. 4703

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

NEA - Lucius D. Battle

Clearances:

S/CPR - Miss Olmsted

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, SA 01, RSR 01, /085 W

R 071515Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4127
USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS ACCRA 3834

CURRENT REACTION

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. NEWS CONCERNING ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY DOMINATED BOTH MORNING NEWSPAPERS. HARD NEWS STORIES WERE SUPPLIED ZP GHANA NEWS AGENCY AND LARGELY TAKEN FROM REUTER. BOTH PAPERS USED BLACK FRAMED HEADLINES ON DEATH.

2. ALL FIVE FRONT-PAGE STORIES IN DAILY GRAPHIC CONCERNED TRAGEDY, INCLUDING ONE STORY ON JORDANIAN ASSASSIN.

3. LOCALLY WRITTEN EDITORIALS AND COLUMNS WERE GENERALLY HIGHLY CRITICAL OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. GRAPHIC EDITORIAL REFERRED TO KENNEDY AS "THE ONE HOPE WHICH MANY PEOPLE SAW FOR SICK AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE CANNOT HELP BUT GET SOME VERY UNEASY AND DIRTY FEELING THAT AMERICA ALWAYS KILLS ANY OF HER CITIZENS WHO ADVOCATE SANITY AND CIVILIZATION AS AMERICAN MISSIONARIES WOULD MAKE US IN 'DARK AFRICA' UNDERSTAND," EDITORIAL SAID.

4. GHANAIAN TIMES EDITORIAL WAS MORE MODERATE. GENERALLY EXPRESSED SADNESS AT KENNEDY DEATH, BUT A FEATURE ARTICLE JUXTAPOSED TO EDITORIAL WAS MOST VICIOUS ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACK IN MORNING PRESS.

5. EDITORIAL SPOKE OF THE "IMMENSE LOSS NOT ONLY TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BUT ALSO TO THE WHOLE WORLD AT LARGE." IT CONDEMNED THE ASSASSINATION ALONG WITH "ALL DECENT-MINDED,

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LIBERAL PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD," AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT GUN CONTROL LAWS WOULD BE PASSED.

6. THE HIGHLY ANTI-AMERICAN COLUMN BY ACTING FEATURE EDITOR BOAKYE DJAN DESCRIBED KENNEDY'S DEATH AS "THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE LONG STORY OF AMERICA'S MORAL DECAY,"

AND LIBERALLY USED SUCH PHRASES AS "AMERICAN IMPERIAL DREAMS," "AMERICAN MONOPOLY CAPITALISM," AND "ULTRA-REACTIONARY RESPONSE."

7. "AMERICA'S IMERIAL DREAMS RECEIVED A TREMENDOUS BOOST RIGHT UP TO THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR WHEN THE SUCCESS STORY OF SOCIALISM IN EUROPE---ESPECIALLY IN THE EAST---SIGNIFIED THE END OF ITS DREAM OF STEPPING INTO THE IMPERIAL SHOES OF THEIR BRITISH AND FRENCH ANCESTORS," THE DJAN COLUMN SAID.

8. "THE MEN OF AMERICAN MONOPOLY CAPITALISM, SEEING THEIR ADVANCE TO WORLD DOMINATION HALTED AND THREATENED IN THIS WAY, TURNED TO ANTI-COMMUNISM AS THEIR BASIC STATE POLICY," HE CONTINUED.

9. SPEAKING OF A ERICA'S "BOUTS OF POLITICAL HYSTERIA AT HOME AND ABROAD," THE ARTICLE SAID THAT " THE DISTINGUISHING HALL-MARKS OF THESE HAVE BEEN BOTH ATOMIC BLACK-MAIL AND INGENUITY; SYSTEMATIC PERSECUTION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE INTELLECTUALS OF THE LEFT SINCE THE MCCARTHY DAYS, AND THE CALCULATED DESTRUCTION OF A SMALL COUNTRY AND ITS POPULATION THROUGH TERROR BOMBING OF CIVILIAN POPULATION IN VIETNAM," DJAN WROTE.

10. HIS ARTICLE ALSO PRESENTED HIS VIEW NEGRO'S POSITION IN THE UNITED STATES AS FOLLOWS: "THE MASS OF AFRO-AMERICANS WHO ARE REPORTED TO BE 'SUBSISTING ON GRASS' ESPECIALLY IN THE MISSISSIPPI AREAS ARE ALSO BELIEVED TO BE 'HUDDLED IN RAT-INFESTED GHETTOES FIGHTING DESPERATELY' TO BREATHE THE VERY 'FREE AIR' AMERICAN IS SUPPOSED TO BE EXPORTING TO AND DEFENDING IN VIETNAM AND EVEN THEN 'ONLY TO BE CLUBBED DOWN AND SHOT BY POLICE.'"

11. DJAN ARTICLE CONCLUDED, "THESE FACTS OUGHT TO BE A SOBERING THOUGHT TO OUR LEADERS WHO IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO RESCUE

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US FROM RED-RUSSIAN AND CHINESE IMPERIALISM ARE NOW PUSHING US GRADUALLY INTO THE FOLD OF THIS AMERICA! (IN CAPS) A CITADEL OF DEMOCRACY (IN CAPS) WHICH CANNOT OR IS NOT EVEN WILLING TO OFFER ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR HER LEADERS."

12. AN ARTICLE IN GRAPHIC, ENTITLED " THE SHAME OF AMERICA," SAID THE ASSASSINATIONS OF THE TWO KENNEDYS, DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND MALCOLM X "PAINT A GRUESOME PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES."

13. "WHERE DOES THE WORLD GO FROM HERE IF THEY WHO PROFESS TO BE THE LEADERS IN WEALTH, IN TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND IN SO CALLED CIVILIZATION CAN SO EASILY ABANDON THESE TRUTHS AND TAKE TO THE GUN LAW OF THE PAST," THE WRITER ASKED.

14. "THE DASTARDLY ACTS WERE COMMITTED BY A SMALL BAND OF WRETCHES BUT THE SHAME IS THAT OF ALL AMERICA AND AMERICANS," HE SAID.

15. ASSASSINATION NEWS GOT MUCH LESS PLAY IN KUMASI. KUMASI PIONEER EDITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGED UNITED STATES AS CHAMPION OF "THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM AND HUMAN CIVILIZATION IN WORLD TODAY" BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT AMERICA IS THE ONE GREAT NATION IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE THAT "PERSISTS IN SHOCKING THE WORLD WITH THE RUDEST OF VIOLENCE TO HUMAN DIGNITY."

16. "WHILE WE EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCE TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND THE FAMILY OF SENATOR KENNEDY, THIS QUESTION WE ALSO WANT ALL AMERICANS TO ANSWER: WHAT'S WRONG IN THE UNITED STATES?" FOLEY

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INFO SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, PI 04, RSC 01,

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R 071015Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8174
INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
RUTAND /AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 197

UNCLAS KINSHASA 9627

SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION;
OFFICIAL REACTION FROM CONGO BRAZZAVILLE

1. CONGO (B)'S VOIX DE LA REVOLUTION NEWSCAST EVENING
6 JUNE 1968 CARRIED STATEMENT BY INFOMIN ANDRE HOMBESSA
DAMNING AMERICAN SOCIETY AND CALLING AMERICANS THE MOST
FRIGHTFUL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. KINSHASA NEWSPAPER QUOTED
ONE PARAGRAPH THEREFROM, UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF WHICH
FOLLOWS.

2. QTE. THE AMERICANS ARE IRRESPONSIBLE. IT'S A SICK
SOCIETY. THEY CALL THEMSELVES CUSTODIANS OF DEMOCRACY
BUT DO NOT KNOW HOW TO APPLY THE ELEMENTAL PRECEPTS OF
DEMOCRACY. NO (OTHER) SOCIETY, EVEN BARBARIAN, HAS
COMMITTED SUCH ACTS OF SAVAGERY. END QTE.

3. ORIGINAL FRENCH VERSION READS: QTE: LES AMERICAINS
NE SONT PAS SERIEUX. C'EST UNE SOCIETE MALADE. ILS
SE DISENT DETENTEURS DE LA DEMOCRATIE, MAIS NE SAVENT
PAS APPLIQUER LES PREMIERES NOTIONS DE LA DEMOCRATIE.
AUCUNE SOCIETE, MEME BARBARE, N'EST PARVENUE A ENREGISTRER
DE TELS ACTES DE SAUVAGERIE, #
END QTE. MCGUIRE

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Robert F.
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O 070848Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7192

UNCLAS ROME 6396

REF: STATE 178273, ROME 6113

SUBJ: VATICAN DELEGATION TO KENNEDY FUNERAL

1. POPE PAUL VI HAS ASKED CARDINAL ANGELO DELL'ACQUA,
APOSTOLIC VICAR FOR ROME, TO BE HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
AT KENNEDY FUNERAL.

2. CARDINAL DELL'ACQUA, ACCOMPANIED BY FATHER FELICE, RECTOR
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY ROME, AND SECRETARY FATHER MALAGOLA ARRIVE
NEW YORK TODAY JUNE 7 AT 1720, VISIT ST. PATRICKS THIS EVENING
AND ATTEND FUNERAL SERVICE TOMORROW.
ACKLEY

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Robert F.

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INFO CPR 02, GPM 04, H 02, NSC 10, O 02, OPR 02, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, SY 03,

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P 070720Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 794
RECEPTION CENTER NY

UNCLAS DUBLIN 634

REF: DUBLIN 632

ALSO TRAVELLING TO NEW YORK ABOARD FLIGHT EI-105 JUNE 7
ARRIVING 1810 TO ATTEND SENATOR KENNEDY'S FUNERAL WILL BE:

1. LAIM COSGRAVE LEADER OF FINE GAEL, PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION
PARTY IN IRISH PARLIAMENT

2. BRENDAN CORISH, LEADER OF LABOR PARTY, SECOND OPPOSITION
PARTY IN IRISH PARLIAMENT

3. ANDREW MINEHAN, WHO WAS PRESIDENT OF NEW ROSS URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL AT TIME OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S VISIT TO IRELAND IN
1963. DUNGANSTOWN, HOME OF RYAN FAMILY AND PLACE FROM WHICH
KENNEDY GREAT GRANDFATHER IMMIGRATED TO US IS IN NEW ROSS
JURISDICTION, AND MINEHAN IS PERSONALLY WELL KNOWN TO KENNEDY
FAMILY, PARTICULARLY TO MRS. SHRIVER, WHO WAS WITH PRESIDENT
KENNEDY ON IRISH TRIP. MINEHAN HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE
ENSURING ADMITTANCE TO FUNERAL IN ST. PATRICKS CATHEDRAL.

PLEASE EXTEND APPROPRIATE COURTESIES. GUEST

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INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, SS 20, H 02,

NSC 10, RSR 01, /072 W

R 071356Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2177

UNCLAS BLANTYRE 1521

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

REF: DEPCIRTEL 176747

1. NEWS OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE IMPACT IN BLANTYRE AND ZOMBA. LARGE NUMBER (BY LOCAL STANDARDS) OF PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT RACES HAVE SIGNED CONDOLENCE BOOK AND EXPRESSED SYMPATHY TO MEMBERS EMBASSY STAFF. THESE EXPRESSIONS HAVE BEEN INDIVIDUAL AND NO RPT NO PUBLIC GATHERINGS OR DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

2. GENERALLY, REACTIONS HAVE BEEN OF SYMPATHY TO KENNEDY FAMILY AND TO U.S. AS NATION. IN MANY CASES THIS HAS BEEN COUPLED WITH EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER TREND TOWARD VIOLENCE IN EVENTS IN U.S. MOST EXPRESSIONS HAVE BEEN LOW-KEY.

3. MALAWI CONGRESS PARTY NEWSPAPER, MALAWI NEWS, DEVOTED EDITORIAL TO ASSASSINATION IN JUNE 7 EDITION. EDITORIAL TITLED "THE WORLD CANNOT BE RULED BY BULLETS," WITH MAIN THEME ONE OF SHOCK AND CONCERN THAT VIOLENCE IS CONTAGIOUS AND ON INCREASE IN U.S.
JONES

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Department of State

ROBERT F.

POL 6 US/KENNEDY,

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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, CPR 02, RSR 01, /288 W

R 071145Z JUN 68
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2594
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1617

SUBJECT: FURTHER BERLIN REACTION TO DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY

REF: BERLIN 1615

1. ABOUT 1500 PERSONS, MOSTLY YOUTHS, JOINED IN A SILENT MARCH FROM DOWNTOWN BERLIN TO RATHAUS SCHOENEBOURG ON JOHN F. KENNEDY PLATZ THE EVENING OF JUNE 6. AN OFFICIAL OF THE SPONSORING ORGANIZATION (RING OF POLITICAL YOUTH) MADE A SHORT MEMORIAL STATEMENT ABOUT SENATOR KENNEDY, AFTER WHICH THE CROWD OBSERVED A MINUTE OF SILENCE AS THE FREEDOM BELL WAS RUNG. REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH THE BERLIN SENAT (INCLUDING THE ACTING GOVERNING MAYOR) AND THE US MISSION (OUR LIAISON OFFICER AND I) WERE PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

2. MANY BERLINERS AND FOREIGNERS HAVE SIGNED THE CONDOLENCE BOOKS AT THE US CONSULATE AND AMERIKA HAUS. MAYOR NEUBAUER (ACTING GOVERNING MAYOR) WAS ONE OF THE FIRST VISITORS TO THE CONSULATE AFTER THE BOOK WAS OPENED.

3. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS DIETRICH SPANGENBERG WILL REPRESENT BERLIN (AS PART OF THE OVERALL GERMAN REPRESENTATION) AT THE FUNERAL SERVICE AND BURIAL JUNE 8.

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NIC 01, O 02, SY 03, OC 06, CCO 00, CPR 02, RSR 01, / III W

P R 071130Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3285

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1748

DEPT PASS CAIRO

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

REF: ALGIERS 1742 *pol 6*

1. WE HAD OPPORTUNITY LAST NIGHT JUNE 6 TO TALK TO HALF-DOZEN ALGERIAN FONOFF OFFICIALS. THEY ACTED AS IF UNDER INSTRUCTIONS: TO SAY NOTHING ABOUT SEN KENNEDY'S DEATH, NO CONDOLENCES, NO EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET, NO QUESTIONS ON IMPACT IN AMERICA OR ON IDENTITY OF ASSASSIN AND POSSIBLE RAMIFICATIONS. ONLY EXCEPTION WAS ONE OFFICIAL, MARRIED TO AMERICAN GIRL, WHO TOOK ME ASIDE TO SAY HOW PERSONALLY SORRY HE AND WIFE WERE. PAO REPORTS SAME COOLNESS AND EXTREME RELUCTANCE TO TALK ABOUT ASSASSINATION ON PART OF ALGERIAN PRESS PEOPLE AND OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH PRESS AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES.

2. ALGERIAN PRESS JUNE 7, NOTABLE FRENCH-LANGUAGE "EL MOUDJAHID" PLAYS STORY BOTH WAYS, STRAIGHT AND EMOTIONAL-EXTREMIST. ONE INSIDE ARTICLE, OVER ONE-QUARTER PAGE IN SIZE AND BORDERED IN BLACK, GIVES FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF SENATOR'S LAST HOURS AND THEN CARRIES LENGTHY EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT'S JUNE 6 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PROCLAMATION TO NATION. ARTICLE STATES SIRHAN BORN IN

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*Algeria 1748
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JERUSALEM, AND ALTHOUGH NOT IDENTIFYING HIM AS ARAB, PROVIDES ENOUGH COLLATERAL INFORMATION SUCH AS NAMES OF HIS BROTHERS SO AS TO LEAVE NO DOUBT IN MINDS OF TYPICAL ARAB READERS. STRESSED L.A. POLICE CHIEF REDDIN'S STATEMENT ABOUT NO EVIDENCE POINTING TO INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY.

3. OTHER ARTICLES AND EDITORIAL ALMOST CONSTITUTE CASE STUDY OF COMPLEXES, FEARS, GRIEVANCES AND PREJUDICES BESETTING WHOLE ARAB WORLD. EDITORIAL ATTACKS CERTAIN EUROPEAN PRESS AGENCIES AND RADIOS FOR UNDERLINING "ASSASSIN'S ARAB NATIONALITY" AND HIS "ARAB FANATICISM". DESCRIBES THIS TENDENCY AS ATTEMPT TO REMOVE PROBLEM FROM ITS PURELY AMERICAN CONTEXT AND LINK IN INTENTIONALLY TO MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. ASKS IF SIRHAN NOT KILLER HIRED BY ZIONISTS FOR PURPOSE DISCREDITING ARABS IN EYES OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION AND PROVOKE ANTIARAB HYSTERIA IN USA.

4. ALGIERS OFFICE OF PALESTINE LIBERATION MOVEMENT "EL FETH" HAS ISSUED RELEASE ALSO PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S PRESS AND TAKING SIMILAR LINE. AFTER TAKING SEN. KENNEDY TO TASK FOR RECENT PRO-ISRAELI STATEMENTS, EL FETH CALLS ASSASSIN "INSTRUMENT OF WORLD ZIONISM, CAPITALISM AND CIA". DOUBTS THAT KILLINGS OF JOHN AND ROBERT KENNEDY COULD HAVE BEEN WORK OF SINGLE INDIVIDUALS. NONE- THE LESS, "EL FETH" "CONDEMNS ANY PERSON USING THIS ARMY (ASSASSINATION) IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY AND AGAINST A FOREIGN CITIZEN OVER POLITICAL DIFFERENCES." ALSO MAINTAINS FETH MOVEMENT HAS "AFFIRMED MANY TIMES ITS DECISION NOT TO EMPLOY REPRISALS AGAINST CIVIL POPULATIONS OF OUR ENEMIES."

5. ONE THEME PLAYED PROMINENTLY BY RADIO ALGIERS IN COMMENTARY ON KENNEDY DEATH IS THAT INSTEAD OF LOOKING FOR LINK WITH ARAB WORLD, ANSWER IS TO BE FOUND IN PAST OF AMERICAN HISTORY, ESPECIALLY HISTORY OF VIOLENCE TOWARDS INDIANS, NEGROES, LATIN-AMERICANS AND ASIANS.

6. WE HAVE HAD GREAT NUMBER OF LETTERS, TELEPHONE CALLS AND OTHER EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY FROM OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE FRENCH COMMUNITY, FROM OTHER EUROPEANS, BOTH EAST AND WEST, AND FROM ASIANS, LATIN AMERICANS AND AFRICANS. ARAB DIPLOMATS BY CONTRAST CLEARLY DO NOT WANT TO TALK ABOUT MATTER. EXCEPTION HAS BEEN TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR. WE HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT OFFICIAL GOA CONDOLENCES BUT WE DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY. AS FOR COOLNESS AND RESERVE BY ALGERIAN OFFICIALS, THERE MAY BE SEVERAL REASONS:

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FACT THAT SHOOTING OCCURED ON JUNE 5, WHICH IS ANNIVERSARY OF SHAME AND DISGRACE TO ARABS; ARAB ORIGIN OF ASSASSINI AND ALGERIAN APPREHENSIONS ABOUT WHAT INVESTIGATIONS MIGHT UNCOVER; VERY REAL ALGERIAN RESENTMENT OVER SENATOR'S PORTLAND, OREGON SPEECH (COMPOUNDED BECAUSE OF HITHERTO IMMENSE POPULARITY OF JOHN F. KENNEDY AND KENNEDY FAMILY AMONG ALGERIANS); CURRENT ALGERIAN-TUNISIAN CRISIS, WHICH GOA APPARENTLY ATTRIBUTES TO BOURGUIBA'S U.S. VISIT; AND FINALLY, FACT THAT U.S.-ALGERIAN RELATIONS REMAIN BROKEN AS RESULT LAST JUNE WAR.

GP-3 HOFFACKER

NOTES NOT PASSED CAIRO BY OCT.

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POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.
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PAGE 01 GUAYAQU 01544 072338Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, USIE 00, NSA 02, RSR 01, /072 W

P R 072200Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL
TO AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 649

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 1544

SUBJ: GUAYAQUIL MEDIA GIVE MUCH ATTENTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

JOINT STATE/USIS MESSAGE

1. THERE HAS BEEN VERY EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE IN GUAYAQUIL OF THE ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY. BEGINNING ON JUNE 5, THE FRONT AND MIDDLE PAGES OF ALL FOUR OF THE LOCAL PAPERS WERE FILLED WITH PHOTOS AND STORIES OF THE SHOOTING AND ITS AFTERMATH. IN ADDITION, EL TELEGRAFO PUT OUT A SPECIAL EDITION IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON OF JUNE 5 ANNOUNCING THE SHOOTING OF THE SENATOR.

2. ALL DAILIES MOURN DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY AND THE LOSS OF "THE HOPE OF THE WORLD." FURTHER, MANY WRITERS SEE THE ASSASSINATION AS "PLOT" BY AN "ALL-POWERFUL GROUP (IN THE UNITED STATES) THAT IS DETERMINED TO PREVENT PEACE." TO SUCH EDITORS, KENNEDY, THE PEACE CANDIDATE, WAS KILLED BY BIG BUSINESS INTERESTS WHO WANTED HIM OUT OF THE WAY SO THAT THE WAR WOULD GO ON AND THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO EARN ENORMOUS PROFITS.

3. WHILE BOTH TELEVISION CHANNELS AND ALL RADIO STATIONS HAVE GIVEN PLAY TO THE STORY, LOCAL TELEVISION HAS PAID SPECIAL HOMAGE TO THE SLAIN SENATOR WITH THIRTY MINUTE PROGRAMS ON JUNE 6 OVER CHANNEL 2, AND ON JUNE 7 OVER CHANNEL 4. THE CONSUL GENERAL HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED TWICE, WITH EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO STATEMENTS AND PROCLAMATION

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ISSUED BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

4. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED MANY LETTERS, TELEPHONE CALLS AND SEVERAL VISITS BY PROMINENT CITIZENS EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES.

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Pol 6 45/Kennedy, Robert F.
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INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, IGA 02, PC 15, RSR 01, 126 W

R 071225Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 572
INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

IBADAN 491
6/7/68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IBADAN 491

SUBJECT: REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

REF: IBADAN 489; LAGOS USINFO 9743

1. IBADAN DAILY SKETCH AND NIGERIAN TRIBUNE TODAY CARRIED STRONG CRITICAL EDITORIALS. SKETCH IN "AMERICA, SHAMELESS AMERICA" USED SUCH WORDS AS "REVOLTING, REPULSIVE, WOEFUL, DISGUSTING, SENSELESS, FUTILE, UNFORTUNATE." TRIBUNE COMMENTED ON VIOLENCE IN AMERICA AND FOUND IRONIC "THIS ROAD TOWARDS BARBARISM IN US WHICH CLAIMS BE TORCH BEARER OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION."

2. CONSUL RECEIVED LETTER FROM NIGERIAN WHO SAYS: "I AM ASHAMED OF USA, NATION OF MURDERERS..... I HAVE RESOLVED NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH AMERICAN NATION. IMMEDIATE STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN FLARE UP AGITATION FOR EXPULSION FROM THIS COUNTRY OF SO-CALLED AMERICAN PEACE CORPS."

3. SEVERAL PERSONS, INCLUDING JUSTICE PIPER, JAMAICAN WHO HEADS WESTERN NIGERIAN ELECTORAL INVESTIGATION COMMISSION; SAKA FAGBO OF WNRC AND H. NABHAN, LEADER OF LEBANESE COMMUNITY, HAVE CALLED TO OFFER CONDOLENCES. VICE CONSUL RECEIVED SYMPATHETIC LETTER FROM JUSTICE CRAIG OF IBADAN HIGH COURT WHICH CONCLUDED BY SAYING "THAT NOBLE IDEALS FOR WHICH SENATOR KENNEDY LIVED AND WAS ACCLAIMED MAY NEVER PERISH."

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4. WNTV LAST NIGHT CARRIED HALF-HOUR TRIBUTE TO ANOTHER KENNEDY" WHICH INCLUDED PATCH-WORK OLD FILM CLIPS PLUS ONE OF ASSASSINATION. COMMENTATOR MODERATE THOUGH HE QUESTIONED WHETHER GOVT. OF, FOR AND BY THE PEOPLE REALLY MEANS ANYTHING. PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDED INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR LAMBO, VICE CHANCELLOR UNIBADAN, AND PSYCHIATRIST, WHOSE COMMENTS GENERALLY REASONABLE AND MEASURED. DESCRIBED AMERICAN SOCIETY AS RELATIVELY RECENT COLLECTION DIVERSE ETHNIC AND RACIAL GROUPS, "AN ARTIFICIAL, HYBRID SOCIETY "WITHOUT SET BEHAVIOR PATTERNS OF OLDER SOCIETIES AND THEREFORE UNSTABLE." FELT HOWEVER PRESENT TURMOIL MEANT AMERICAN SOCIETY WOULD IMPROVE AND GO THROUGH PERIOD "SPONTANEOUS RECTIFICATION." PUT FORWARD QUESTIONABLE THESIS THAT DEVELOPING NATIONS LESS COMPETITIVE THAN DEVELOPED, THAT DEEP DIVISIONS AND HATREDS IN LATTER NOT YET PART OF FORMER, WHICH STILL HAD TIME AVOID PITFALLS OF VIOLENCE EXPERIENCED BY US AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

5. IN DISCUSSION ASSASSINATION AT IBADAN ROTAL CLUB LAST NIGHT GENERAL CONSENSUS CONDOLENCES AND REGRETS SHOULD TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER CRITICISM. CHAIRMAN, ABUDYI WILLIAMS OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, ALSO WARNED AGAINST INTERFERENCE IN US DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. ALL EXCEPT COMMISSIONER FOR LANDS AND HOUSING OMISADE SUSCRIBED TO "LONE MADMAN" THEORY. OMISADE SAW PATTERN IN MURDER TWO KENNEDYS AND KING, WHO ALL WELL-KNOWN FOR CONCERN WITH PROBLEMS OF POVERTY AND RACE RELATIONS. CONCERNED OVER AFFECT SUCH VIOLENCE ON US POSITION OVERSEAS AND POSSIBLE IMITATION ELSEWHERE. PROFESSOR BASSIR OF UNIBADAN, SOMETIME MARXIST SYMPATHIZER. DEPLORED GENERAL SPREAD OF VIOLENCE IN WORLD AND LACK OF SCHOOL AND PARENTAL DISCIPLINE. APPLAUDED PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S ESTABLISHMENT COMMISSION INVESTIGATE CAUSES OF VIOLENCE. (RESTRAINT SHOWN BY USUALLY CRITICAL BASSIR MAY BE RELATED TO HIS OWN CONCERN OVER FAILURE OF UNIBADAN VICE CHANCELLOR LAMBO TO DISCIPLINE ORGANIZERS APRIL 17 DEMONSTRATION AGAINST TANZANIAN RECOGNITION BIAFRA.").

6. AMERICAN AT UNIBADAN'S INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN STUDIES AWARE OF NO ATTEMPT ORGANIZE DEMONSTRATION AT UNIVERSITY AND FOUND MIXTURE OF SYMPATHY AND AMAZEMENT THAT SUCH THING COULD HAPPEN IN US.

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7. COMMENT: ASIDE FROM PRESS, WE CONTINUE GET MORE SYMPATHETIC
THAN HOSTILE REACTIONS. POSSIBLE THAT CONCERN WITH NIGERIAN
PROBLEMS HAS DILUTED CRITICISM OF US.
STRONG

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NR POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, 067 W

R 071005ZSUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2094

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 1586

SUBJ: REACTION TO DEATH SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY

REF: DEPTTEL 176747 —

1. UPON RECEIVING NEWS PRESIDENT AHIDJO IMMEDIATELY CABLED CONDOLENCE MESSAGE TO MRS. KENNEDY. ALSO ON DAY DEATH MIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SEC GEN FOREIGN MIN, DIRECTOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND CHIEF PROTOCOL VISITED EMBASSY PAY RESPECTS AND SIGN BOOKS. MIN FOR AFF GAVE SHORT EULOGY KENNEDY TO CHARGE.

2. NUMEROUS AMBASSADORS AND OTHER DIPLOMATS PLUS REPRESENTATIVES OTHER ORGANIZATIONS CALLED AND SIGNED BOOKS, SENT LETTERS CONDOLENCE AND/OR TELEPHONED. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ENTIRELY OVERCOME BY GRIEF ON ARRIVAL.

3. MANY CAMEROONIANS CAME TO EMBASSY, SOME PREFERRED NOT SIGN BOOKS. OTHERS WROTE STATEMENTS IN TRIBUTE TO KENNEDY AND/OR DEPLOING VIOLENCE IN U.S. IRONIC STATEMENTS MADE REGARDING AMERICA BEING A POLITICAL MODEL FOR REST WORLD.

4. NEWS PROGRAMS RADIO CAMEROON ALMOST CONFINED TO KENNEDY DEATH. USUAL LONG RUN-DOWN WORLD REACTIONS ON 8 P.M. NEWS. RADIO CAMEROON EDITORIAL ECHOED EARLIER SENTIMENTS QUOTE WHY DOES VIOLENCE REIGN SO STRONGLY IN THE UNITED STATES? POLIT. ASSASSINATION IS GROWING IN THE WORLD AND ESPECIALLY IN THE UNITED STATES UNQUOTE. DENNIS.

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4 Pol 6 US / Kennedy Robert F

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 02035 071158Z

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ACTION SCI 05

INFO EUR 15, NEA 13, EA 10, L 03, NASA 04, GPM 04, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, COM 08, NSC 10, OST 01, SS 20,

RSR 01, /134 W

R 071155Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2066
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCSIRIKE
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL COLOMBO 2035

REF: STATE 174673

1. PROPOSAL SEEK GOC APPROVAL ESTABLISH BC-4/DOPPLER/
SECOR SITE IN CEYLON WOULD ADD A QUALITY AND DIMENSION
TO US-CEYLON RELATIONSHIP WHICH I BELIEVE MAY NOT BE
POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE AT THIS TIME. OUR CURRENT RELATIONS
WITHIN A RATHER CIRCUMSCRIBED FRAMEWORK ARE FRIENDLY,
MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL, AND POTENTIALLY SUSCEPTIBLE OF
FURTHER EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING. WE HAVE ACHIEVED
THIS POSITION THROUGH CAREFUL, DISCREET SUPPORT OF THIS
GOVERNMENT AND UNDERSTANDING SENSITIVITY OF ITS PRESENT
NEED TO MAINTAIN
A CONVINCINGLY REALISTIC NON-ALIGNED
IMAGE. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS AN ACHIEVEMENT WHICH
OUGHT TO BE PROTECTED BY EXERCISING GREAT CARE TO
AVOID SEEKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR FACILITIES WHICH WOULD
ALTER SUBSTANTIALLY THE BALANCE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.
IN THIS CONNECTION, I AM PARTICULARLY STRUCK BY THE
POSSIBILITY THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THE PROPOSED
FACILITIES (SECOR, ACCORDING TO INFO CONTAINED IN
CA-1794) MAY BE PARTIALLY STAFFED BY US MILITARY
PERSONNEL. EVEN WERE THE GOC TO AGREE TO THIS PROPOSAL,
WHICH I AM PRESENTLY DISPOSED TO THINK HIGHLY UNLIKELY,

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, SSO 00, (RSR) 01, /081 W

R 071732Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4532
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA BY POUCH
AMCONSUL TANGIER BY POUCH

UNCLAS RABAT 4576

SUBJ: PUBLIC REACTIONS TO THE ASSASSINATION OF SEN ROBERT KENNEDY.

1. SUMMARY - ALL MOROCCAN PAPERS HEADLINED REPORTS OF SHOOTING OF SEN KENNEDY AND HIS DEATH JUNE 6. COVERAGE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE, DRAWN MOSTLY FROM AFP AND AMERICAN WIRE SERVICES. THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR. END SUMMARY.

2. FRENCH LANGUAGE "LA VIGIE" AND "PETIT MAROCAIN" COVERAGE OF KENNEDY ASSASSINATION GAVE PROMINENT PLACE TO STATEMENTS OF FGNMIN LARAKI AND KING HASSAN EXPRESSING INDIGNATION AND SYMPATHY (SEE RABAT 4545 AND 4557) AND ALSO INCLUDED NUMEROUS NEWS SERVICES REPORTS ON CIRCUMSTANCES OF ASSASSINATION, REACTIONS OF PROMINENT PEOPLE, BACKGROUND OF ACCUSED SIRHAN SIRHAN, AND STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL CLARK. "PETIT MAROCAIN" JUNE 7 HEADLINED QUOTE ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY - AN ISOLATED ACT UNQUOTE AND EMPHASIZED THAT NO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT IMPLICATED. PAPER ALSO CARRIED 1) STATEMENT BY MOHAMMED MEHDI, SECRETARY, ACTION COMMITTEE ON ARAB-AMERICAN RELATIONS, SAYING THAT WHILE ACT OF SIRHAN IS APPALLING AND INDEFENSIBLE, IT QUOTE REFLECTS THE FRUSTRATION OF A GOOD NUMBER OF ARABS VIS-A-VIS AMERICAN POLITICAL FIGURES WHO HAVE SOLD ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE TO ZIONIST JEWISH VOTERS UNQUOTE; 2) DECLARATION BY PLO PRESIDENT YEHIA HAMMOUDA DENYING ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN HIS ORGANIZATION AND SIRHAN; AND 3) INQUIRING-REPORTER TYPE STORY ILLUSTRATING WIDE-SPREAD SHOCK AND SYMPATHY FOR KENNEDY IN CASABLANCA.

3. ISTIQLAL FRENCH LANGUAGE DAILY "L'OPINION" SUGGESTED IN FRONT PAGE STORY JUNE 6 THAT KENNEDY WAS VICTIM OF MAFFIA OR CRIME SYNDI-

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CATE PLOT. ON JUNE 7, HOWEVER, AFTER IDENTIFY OF ACCUSED ASSASSIN CONFIRMED, PAPER SHIFTED ITS LINE BY GIVING PROMINENT PLAY TO AFP STORY FROM NEW YORK SUGGESTING THAT KENNEDY'S PRO-ISRAEL SPEECH IN OREGON MAY 26 MAY HAVE BEEN REASON FOR SIRHAN'S ACTION. L'OPINION" ALSO CARRIED STATEMENTS BY MEHDI AND HAMMOUNDA CITED ABOVE.

4. ARABIC LANGUAGE DAILIES "AL ANBA" (SEMI-OFFICIAL) AND "AL ALAM" (ISTIQLAL) HAVE ALSO REFRAINED FROM EDITORIAL COMMENT THUS FAR. "AL ANBA" AND RTM HAVE CARRIED STRAIGHT FACTUAL ACCOUNTS PUT TOGETHER FROM NEWS SERVICE STORIES. ALTHOUGH ALL PAPERS HAVE INCLUDED STORIES IDENTIFYING ACCUSED ASSASSIN AS COMING FROM PALESTINE, ONLY "AL ALAM" HAS HEADLINED THIS INFORMATION, INCLUDING FACT THAT SIRHAN'S FATHER BISHARA IS A "CATHOLIC ARAB". "AL ALAM" JUNE 7 ALSO CARRIED COMMENTS BY NEW ORLEANS PROSECUTOR JIM GARRISON AND POLISH NEWSPAPER IMPLICATIONS THAT ROBERT KENNEDY MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED BECAUSE HE KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT HIS BROTHER'S DEATH.

5. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION HAS BEEN MAJOR TOPIC OF PUBLIC INTEREST, COMPLETELY OVERSHADOWING CURRENT VISIT OF LIBYAN PRINCE BAKKUSH AND ANNIVERSARY OF JUNE 5 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AS SUBJECT OF GENERAL DISCUSSION. UNIVERSAL REACTION HAS BEEN SHOCK, DISMAY, SADNESS, AND SYMPATHY FOR KENNEDY FAMILY. TASCA

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Pol 6 US/ Kennedy, Robert F

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INFO AF 09, SY 03, IO 13, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00,

INR 07, NSAE 00, L 03, H 02, P 04, USIA 12, FBI 01, CU 04, AID 28,

DODE 00, RSR 01, /139 W

R 070848Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4521

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RABAT 4560

REF: PARA 2, STATE 176785

1. AS FAR AS WE AWARE, TWO MOST SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS NOW IN US ARE PASHAS OF KENITRA AND SAFI, WHO ARE SCHEDULED TO COMPLETE 30 DAY LEADER GRANTS ON JUNE 8.

2. AID HAS TWENTY-FIVE PARTICIPANTS CURRENTLY IN US OR SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE WITHIN A WEEK, INCLUDING FIVE AT INTERNATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE TWENTY STUDENTS IN US UNIVERSITIES UNDER ASPAU AND AF GRAD PROGRAMS AND 10 STUDENTS UNDER AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE PROGRAM.

3. MOST IMPORTANT OF 84 MOROCCAN MILITARY STUDENTS IN US ARE FOUR AT US COMMAND & GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL, FORT LEVENWORTH, ONE AT NAVAL WAR COLLEGE AND COMMANDANT BOUBKER SKIREDJ, LIAISON OFFICER AT LACKLAND AFB.

4. APART FROM PASHAS MENTIONED ABOVE, BELIEVE DEPT IN BEST POSITION DETERMINE IN LIGHT LOCAL CONDITIONS WHETHER AND WHAT SECURITY PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY. TASCA

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Department of State
ROBERT F. **TELEGRAM**

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 734

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ROBERT F.

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 1086 W

R 071700Z JUN 68
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2598
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1624

SUBJECT: ULBRICHT SENDS CONDOLENCES TO MRS. ETHEL KENNEDY

REF: BERLIN 1615

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF JUNE 7 PUBLISHED THE TEXT OF A CON-
DOLENCE TELEGRAM SENT TO MRS. ETHEL KENNEDY BY ULBRICHT ON
BEHALF OF THE STATE COUNCIL AND THE GDR GOVERNMENT. AFTER AS-
SURING HER OF "SINCERE SYMPATHY," THE MESSAGE SAID THAT THE
PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR HAD REACTED WITH INDIGNATION
AND HORROR TO THE NEWS THAT HER HUSBAND -- AFTER THE "POLITICAL
MURDER OF HIS BROTHER, PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND THE SIMILAR
MURDER OF MARTIN LUTHER KING -- HAD BECOME A VICTIM OF THOSE
POWERFUL EXTREME REACTIONARY CIRCLES WHICH PRACTICE TO AN IN-
CREASING EXTENT THE MURDER OF POLITICAL OPPONENTS TO GAIN THEIR
ANTI-HUMANITARIAN AND ANTI-DEMOCRATIC GOALS AND WHO HAVE INTRO-
DUCED MURDER AS A MEANS OF POLITICAL DEBATE IN US DOMESTIC
POLITICS." THE TELEGRAM DESCRIBED SENATOR KENNEDY AS ONE WHO
THOUGHT A BETTER, MORE PEACEFUL, AND MORE JUST US DOMESTIC AND
FOREIGN POLICY.

2. COMMENT: WITH THE TELEGRAM TO MRS. KENNEDY, ULBRICHT EX-
CEEDED HIS ALREADY HIGH STANDARDS OF CYNICISM AND ARROGANCE.
THE SAME ISSUE OF ND IS FILLED WITH COMMENTARY OF THE MOST
VICIOUS KIND CARRYING ON THE LINE REPORTED IN THE REFTEL,
FEATURING A LEAD EDITORIAL TITLED "WHAT A SYSTEM!"

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Pol 645/ Kennedy, Robert
Department of State **TELEGRAM** F.

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ACTION AF 15

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P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, RSR 01, /112 W

R 071500Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3384

UNCLAS CONAKRY 1784

REF: STATE 176747

1. NEWS OF WOUNDING AND SUBSEQUENT DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY HAS HAD DEEP IMPACT ON GUINEAN OFFICIALS AND GUINEAN POPULATION GENERALLY AND CAST A PALL ON LAST DAYS OF VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT BY ASST. SEC. PALMER TO GUINEA. PRES. TOURE, FONMIN BEAVOGUI AND NUMEROUS OTHER HIGH GUINEAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING GUINEAN AMB. TO US KARM BANGOURA WHO KNEW SENATOR KENNEDY PERSONALLY, CONTINUALLY EXPRESSED THEIR PROFOUND CONCERN TO PALMER AND EMBASSY BEFORE THE SENATOR'S DEATH AND HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR INDIGNATION AT THIS WANTON ACT OF VIOLENCE. PRES. TOURE HAS SENT PERSONAL MESSAGE TO PRES. JOHNSON AND MRS. ROBERT KENNEDY. GUINEAN RADIO HAS GONE TO GREAT LENGTHS IN REPORTING ASSASSINATION AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS. IT HAS REPORTED EXTENSIVELY ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S BACKGROUND, EMPHASIZING HIS SUPPORT OF CIVIL RIGHTS, SOCIAL PROGRESS AND PEACE IN VIETNAM.

2. AT AIRPORT A FEW MINUTES AGO MINISTER OF STATE, AIFOULAYE DIALLO, AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DIALLO ALPHA ABDOULAYE, BOTH EXPRESSED TO PALMER AND TO ME THEIR PROFOUND GRIEF AT THE SENATOR'S DEATH AND THEIR SINCERE SYMPATHY FOR HIS FAMILY.

3. PRES. TOURE CHERISHES THE PERSONAL TIES HE CONSIDERS HE HAD ESTABLISHED WITH PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND FEELS GREAT SYMPATHY AND ADMIRATION FOR ENTIRE KENNEDY FAMILY. HE RECALLS SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY VISIT TO GUINEA IN 1960 AND

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 01784 071532Z

AMBASSADOR SHRIVER VISIT IN 1961 AND 1963. DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY WILL GENUINELY GRIEVE TOURE AND OTHER GUINEAN OFFICIALS. THEIR ATTACHMENT TO KENNEDYS HAD UNDOUBTEDLY LED GUINEAN LEADERSHIP TO HOPE THAT HE WOULD BECOME THE NEXT US PRESIDENT AND WOULD ADOPT POLICIES WITH WHICH THEY WOULD BE IN SYMPATHY. THESE WOULD INCLUDE US WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM, FULL ACHIEVEMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS, AND PROBABLY INCREASED AID TO AFRICA AND OTHER LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 BENGHA 01033 071028Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10,
NEA 13, RSR 01, /073 W

R 070922Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
TO USIA WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 100
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS BENGHAZI 1033

JOINT USIA/STATE MESSAGE

TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES LOS ANGELES RECEIVED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE
NEWS MEDIA THIS AREA. FRONTPAGE ALL PUBLICATIONS REPORT ON THE
AMERICAN TRAGEDY OF SENATOR KENNEDY.

THURSDAY'S ARABIC DAILY AL HAKIKA SAYS IN ITS HEADLINE "CRIME
AGAINST ROBERT KENNEDY IS OUTRAGEOUS".

ENGLISH DAILY THE LIBYAN TIMES REPORTS ON ASSASSIN AND HEADLINES
STORY "KILLER WAS A POLITICAL FANATIC" - THAT HIS DEED WILL LOSE
THE ARABS WHATEVER SYMPATHY THEY HAD IN THE U.S. AND IN TURN WILL
FURTHER THE CAUSE OF ZIONISTIC DESIGNS IN ARAB WORLD.
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POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 NEW DE 15262 071217Z

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ACTION SS 20

INFO NEA 13,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,GPM 04,H 02,P 04,NSC 10,CPR 02,

0 02,SY 03,OPR 02,RSR 01,RSC 01,1064 W

O 071115Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5811

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 15262

REF: STATE 178273

GOI CONTEMPLATING ATTEMPT TO GET B.R. BHAGAT, MINISTER
OF STATE, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO ARLINGTON IN TIME FOR
KENNEDY BURIAL. MEA SECRETARY T.N. KAUL ASKS
URGENTLY WHETHER WE HAVE INDICATION MANY OTHER
COUNTRIES ARE SENDING SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES.
WEATHERSBY

NEW DELHI

15262
6/7/68

POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
 Department of State

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03355 071138Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04

RSC 01, RSR 01, /060 W

R 071100Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2516

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 3355

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: ABIDJAN USINFO'S DTG 3334 1581145 AND DTG 3342 1581600

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MSG

1. ABIDJAN DAILY FRATERNITE-MATIN ISSUED SPECIAL NOON EDITION JUNE 6 ANNOUNCING DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY. WE INFORMED THIS FIRST TIME SUCH EDITION EVER ISSUED.

2. JUNE 7 EDITION DEVOTED HALF OF FRONT AND BACK PAGES TO FURTHER COVERAGE OF ASSASSINATION. FRONT PAGE HEADLINES ENTITLED "WHY SO MANY MURDERS IN THE USA?" WERE EXCERPT FROM ARTHUR SCHLESINGER SPEECH AT CCNY WHICH GIVEN WIDE AFP DISTRIBUTION. HEADLINE THEN FOLLOWED BY OTHER EXCERPTS SCHLESINGER SPEECH, INCLUDING REFERENCES TO VIET NAM AND IDEA THAT VIOLENCE HAS ITS ORIGIN IN U.S. PAST. OTHER FRONT PAGE COVERAGE DEVOTED TO TEXT OF MESSAGE TO CONDOLENCES FROM PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY TO MRS KENNEDY AND ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AMBASSADOR AHOJA AND IVORIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN SIMEON AKE WOULD REPRESENT IVORY COAST AT FUNERAL CEREMONIES.

3. BACK PAGE INCLUDED EXTENSIVE COVERAGE REACTIONS IN U.S. AND ABROAD, BRIEF LISTING OF SUCCESSFUL AND UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS AT POLITICAL ASSASSINATION IN U.S. BEGINNING IN 1865 WITH LINCOLN, AND ARTICLE ON PERPETRATOR ENTITLED "WHO IS SIRHAN SIRHAN?".

4. PAPER CARRIED AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT EXPRESSING REAL SORROW

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6-7-68*

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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 03355 071138Z

ALL AMERICANS AND DEEP APPRECIATION FOR MANY MARKS OF LOCAL SYMPATHY.

5. GENERAL REACTION IN IVORY COAST ONE OF DEEP SHOCK. SENATOR KENNEDY ESPECIALLY APPRECIATED HERE BECAUSE OF FACT HE WAS PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO IVORY COAST'S FIRST INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY CEREMONIES 1961.

6. TEXTS PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET'S MESSAGE AND OTHER REACTIONS BEING SENT USINFO. MORGAN

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 05023 071300Z

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INFO AF 09, SS 20, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01,

/061 W

R 071025Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5355

UNCLAS NAIROBI5023

SUBJECT: KENNEDY CONDOLENCE

AMBASSADOR RECEIVED FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM
JAMES R. MANCHAM, PRESIDENT OF SEYCHELLES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND MEMBER OF GOVERNING
COUNCIL: "PLEASE CONVEY TO MRS. ROBERT KENNEDY AND
YOUR GOVERNMENT OUR SENSE OF PROFOUND SHOCK AND
SADNESS AT THE VILE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF
SENATOR KENNEDY. WE PRAY GOD FOR HIS QUICK
RECOVERY." J
FERGUSON

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~~FRAN~~ ROBERT F.

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02592 072225Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, P 04, USIA 12, L 03, H 02, INR 07

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R 072151Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2496

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LETTER FROM LLOYD, PERMSEC, MINEXTAFF, DELIVERED TO AMB, STATED PRIMIN FEELS EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE BY USG TO HAVE STATEMENT OF LA POLICE CHIEF IMPLYING JAMAICAN INVOLVEMENT IN KENNEDY ASSASSINATION CONTRADICTED AND EXPRESSED PRIMIN'S HOPE FOR APOLOGY FROM AUTHORITIES CONCERNED. TO THIS LETTER, WE PROPOSE TO SEND FOLLOWING SIGNED BY COUNSELOR OF EMBASSY ON TUESDAY, JUNE 11:

" THE AMBASSADOR HAS REQUESTED ME TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR LETTER OF JUNE 6, 1968.

" AS THE WORLD NOW KNOWS AND KNEW BEYOND ALL SHADOW OF DOUBT WITHIN HOURS AFTER THE SHOOTING, THE INDIVIDUAL NOW CHARGED WITH THE MURDER OF SENATOR KENNEDY IS NOT A JAMAICAN. IT DOES NOT SEEM THAT THE IMPLICATION THAT A JAMAICAN MIGHT POSSIBLY BE INVOLVED, SO QUICKLY CORRECTED BY OVERWHELMING PUBLICITY AS TO THE TRUE NATIONALITY OF THE SUSPECT, NECESSITATES ANY FURTHER ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, SINCE, AS YOUR ARE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS NO JURISDICTION OR CONTROL OVER EMPLOYEES OF A MUNICIPALITY.

"AS YOU MUST KNOW, REGRETS HAVE ALREADY BEEN VOLUNTEERED BY THE AMBASSADOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER PERSONALLY. FURTHER WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT REGRETS WERE SIMILARLY VOLUNTEERED BY AN OFFICER OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO THE JAMAICAN CHARGE IN WASHINGTON."

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POL 6 US 'KENNEDY, ROBERT

Department of State

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PAGE 01 LONDON 09629 071317Z

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RSR 01, 119 W

R 071247Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4018
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1225

UNCLAS LONDON 9629

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. BECAUSE OF KENNEDY DEATH, LABOR MP MCKAY ANNOUNCED
CANCELLATION JUNE 9 TRAFALGAR SQUARE RALLY ON BEHALF JORDAN
REFUGEES. "MAYOR OF JERUSALEM" RAUHI KHATIB WAS TO HAVE
BEEN AMONG SPEAKERS.

2. OTHER JORDAN REFUGEE WEEK ACTIVITIES HERE, "LIVING
EXHIBITION" AND CHURCH SERVICE, UNAFFECTED. BRUCE

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 08661 072051Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO SS 20, GPM 04, H 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04,

RSC 01, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, CU 04, OPR 02, RSE 01, /115 W

R 071800Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2133
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SALVADOR

UNCLAS RIO DE JANEIRO 8661

FOLLOWING FROM SALVADOR REPEATED FOR YOU QUOTE

R 061940Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL SALVADOR
TO RUEUZ/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 26
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 165
STATE GRNC
UNCLAS SALVADOR 112

RIO PASS OTHER CONSULATES AT DISCRETION

SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATION.

GROUP APPROX TWO HUNDRED SECONDARY STUDENTS
DEMONSTRATED IN FRONT OF CONSULATE SHORTLY AFTER NOON
THURSDAY MAY 6. SPEECHES AND BANNERS CLAIMING
SENATOR KENNEDY KILLED BY "NORTH AMERICAN IMPERIALISM".
DISBANDED QUIETLY AFTER ADDRESS BY MEMBER CONSULATE
STAFF. SCHWARTZ UNQUOTE TUTHILL

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6/7/68

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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, SIL 01, LAB 06, CPR 02, /090 W

R 0071100Z JUNE 68

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4432

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 3489

SUBJ: REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

REF: STATE 176747

1. ALL JUNE 7 DAR PAPERS HEADLINE SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH: STORY WAS LEAD ITEM ON JUNE 6 RADIO NEWSCASTS. NEWS COVERAGE IS STRAIGHT AND FACTUAL. THREE OUT OF FOUR DAILY PAPERS RUN ROMAIN GARY ASSASSINATION PREDICTION STORY.

2. PRESIDENT NYEERERE SENT FOLLOWING TELEGRAM JUNE 6 TO MRS. KENNEDY, "WE HAVE RECEIVED WITH PROFOUND SHOCK AND HORROR THE NEWS OF THE TRAGIC AND CRUEL DEATH OF YOUR HUSBAND. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF TANZANIA, AND ON MY OWN BEHALF, I SEND YOU AND THE WHOLE KENNEDY FAMILY MY PRAYERFUL CONDOLENCES."

3. EDITORIAL IN JUNE 7 "NATIONALIST" (FULL TEXT BEING SENT USINFO) IS QUITE TEMPERATE, THOUGH IT DECRIES VIOLENCE OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND SAYS IT IS "SICK." EDITORIAL IN "UHURU" IS MORE STRIDENT, "WHITE AMERICANS AND THE ENEMIES OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY" ARE SAID TO BE "REJOICING" AT HIS DEATH. "UHURU" SAYS SENATOR KENNEDY WAS KILLED BECAUSE HE OPPOSED OPPRESSION OF NEGROES AND OPPOSED WAR IN VIET-NAM. "NGURUMO" CHARGES AMERICA WITH USING "THE VOTE OF THE GUN" TO REMOVE ITS LEADERS AND SAYS THAT U.S. "STINKS IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD."

4. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT BY NUTA

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6-7-68*

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 03489 071629Z

GENERAL SECRETARY MICHAEL KAMALIZA TO AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY. KAMALIZA SAYS KENNEDY DEATH WAS " CAUSED BY BARBARIC ACTION OF VIOLENCE ORGANIZED BY SELFISH PEOPLE WITH HOOLIGANIC ATTITUDE WHO DEFENDS (SIC) THE REIGN OF CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM IN THE WORLD AT THE EXPENSE OF THE WORKING CLASS. BELIEVE ME THE WAY YOU AMERICANS HAVE CHOSEN OF CHANGING YOUR LEADERS BY ASSASSINATION SHOULD BE CONDEMNED WITHOUT ANY RESERVATIONS".

5. EMBASSY AND USIS HAVE OPENED CONDOLENCE BOOKS WHICH ARE BEING SIGNED BY MEMBERS OF DIPOMATIC CORPS AND BY ORDINARY PEOPLE. FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT URIAH SIMANGO CALLED AT EMBASSY JUNE 7 TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY.

6. STORY HAS BEGUN TO CIRCULATE IN SOME AREAS OF DAR THAT PRESIDENT JOHNSON HIRED ASSASSIN TO KILL SENATOR KENNEDY SO THAT LATTER WOULD NOT BECOME PRESIDENT.

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ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LONDON 09659 072021Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, /086 W
-----R 071659Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4032

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION ONE OF TWO LONDON 9659

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

SUMMARY: BRITISH NEWSPAPERS AND BROADCASTING MEDIA HAVE OVERFLOWED WITH REPORTS AND COMMENTARY, ALMOST TO EXCLUSION OF OTHER NEWS, AS TRAGEDY OF ROBERT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION HIT SHOCKED AND UNBELIEVING BRITAIN. RESPONSE HAS BEEN OUTPOURING OF SYMPATHY FOR AMERICA, AND SIMULTANEOUSLY, HORRIFIED RECOIL FROM VIOLENCE AND EVIL REVEALED IN COUNTRY TO WHICH THEY FEEL SO CLOSE. DEBATE OVER SIGNIFICANCE OF EVENT FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

AND FOR FUTURE OF AMERICAN SOCIETY IS WIDESPREAD BUT INCONCLUSIVE, SAVE IN ONE RESPECT -- A UNIVERSAL DISGUST WITH AND CONDEMNATION OF AMERICAN REFUSAL TO PASS ADEQUATE AND CIVILIZED LEGISLATION TO CONTROL DISTRIBUTION OF GUNS.

1. BRITISH PRESS RESPONSE TO MURDER OF SENATOR KENNEDY MUST HAVE CLOSELY RIVALLED AMERICAN PRESS IN IMMEDIACY, DETAIL, AND EMOTIONAL IMPACT. FROM MOMENT NEWS BROKE, PAPERS AND TV HAVE REPORTED REPETITIVELY AND IN ALL ITS CONTRADICTORY MINUTIAE THE SHOOTING AND EVERY SCRAP OF NEWS RELEVANT TO IT. ON EMOTIONAL LEVEL, BRITAIN HAS REACTED ALMOST AS EXTENSION OF US AND PARTICIPANT IN TRAGEDY. AS BRITAIN TAKES BREATH, PRESS IS ATTEMPTING OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT OF REAL MEANING OF KENNEDY'S DEATH FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, AND OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE AS A MANIFESTATION OF THE CONDITION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. WHILE DIFFERENCES ALONG POLITICAL LINES ARE EVIDENT, THERE IS A GENERAL TENDENCY TO ATTRIBUTE AMERICAN PROPENSITIES TO VIOLENCE TO SOCIAL INEQUALITIES, AND AN ALMOST UNIVERSAL AGREEMENT THAT WHATEVER ITS SOURCE,

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VIOLENCE IS NEEDLESSLY AND CRIMINALLY ENCOURAGED BY LAX GUN LAWS.

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN LARGELY DEVOTED TO THE DEBATE WHICH PRESS REPORTS IS CURRENTLY OBSESSING U.S.: IS POLITICAL VIOLENCE SYMPTOM OF SICK SOCIETY OR FLAW IN AMERICAN CHARACTER, OR SIMPLY BAD LUCK THAT POLITICAL LEADERS BECOME VICTIMS OF DERANGED MINDS? POPULAR PRESS TENDS TO ASCRIBE VIOLENCE TO FRONTIER MENTALITY AND OUTDATED WILD-WEST MYTHOLOGY OF AMERICA, AND TO DEPLORE ITS CONTINUANCE IN MODERN WORLD. QUALITY PRESS TENDS MORE TO TRACE IT TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INEQUALITIES LEADING TO ALIENATION OF LARGE NUMBERS OF AMERICANS.

3. TIMES LEADER JUNE 6 FOUND TENDENCY TOWARD VIOLENCE UNIVERSAL, BUT EXAGGERATED IN US BECAUSE OF HAVE VS. HAVE-NOT SPLIT. "FOR WHATEVER REASONS VIOLENCE IS GROWING POWER IN U.S. ... IN ALMOST EVERY OTHER COUNTRY SAME PATTERN OF GROWING VIOLENCE CAN BE DETECTED EVEN THOUGH IN BRITAIN IT HAS NOT REACHED ANYTHING LIKE SAME LEVEL". POLITICAL VIOLENCE NORMALLY CONCENTRATED UPON BEST MEN BY ALIENATED, AND ALIENATED FOUND IN LARGE NUMBERS ONLY IN SOCIETY WHERE ALIENATION IS COMMON. "IN US PROSPERITY HAS BECOME AN INSULT TO THOSE WHO DO NOT SHARE IT ... VIOLENCE IS REVENGE ON SOCIETY OF THOSE WHO ARE LEFT OUT". PARADOX IS THAT CHIEF AIM OF KENNEDY WAS TO END SOCIAL ALIENATION IN US. LOUIS HEREN IN TIMES PLAYED SAME THEME. "THERE IS NOTHING PECULIARLY AMERICAN ABOUT HATE AND ENVY, BUT THEY FESTER AND LUXURIATE IN LAND OF EXTREME WEALTH AND POVERTY ... AND INSECURITY OF EXCLUDED MINORITY GROUPS. IT WAS SENATOR KENNEDY'S CRUEL FATE THAT NEITHER WORLD OF STAINED SWEATSHIRTS, JEANS AND TATTERED SNEAKERS WAS ONE OF HIS NATURAL ALLIES IN HIS BID FOR PRESIDENTIAL POWER".

4. GUARDIAN SAID SHOOTING "JUST ONE MORE INDICATION OF EXTENT TO WHICH VIOLENCE HAS BECOME PART OF AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE". ALTHOUGH GUARDIAN ON 6TH GOT IN ITS LICKS ON VIETNAM -- "IF GOVERNMENTS CAN USE VIOLENCE, PEOPLE FEEL FEWER RESTRAINTS" -- LEADER NEXT DAY TOOK BROADER VIEW, DOUBTING THAT PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION CAN HELP OF SAY ANYTHING NOT ALREADY KNOWN; NEED NOW IS FOR ACTION TO HELP DISPOSSESSED AND ALIENATED.

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5. DAILY TELEGRAPH DENIES AMERICAN SOUL FLAWED WITH VIOLENCE. "IN FEW COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IS STYLE AND TEMPER OF POLITICS MORE CIVILIZED"; IT UNFAIR TO BESMIRCH AMERICAN REPUTATION FOR CRIMES OF FEW. DAILY EXPRESS SAYS IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO PULLED TRIGGER; HE WAS MERELY HYPNOTIZED VICTIM OF POISONED SYSTEM. DAILY MAIL AGREES REAL REASON FOR VIOLENCE OF MINORITIES IS THAT THEY DENIED PROMISE OF AMERICA.

6. BUT BRITISH PRESS IS UNANIMOUS, AND BITTERLY EMPHATIC, IN ITS CONDEMNATION OF FAILURE TO CONTROL INDISCRIMINATE SALES OF FIREARMS, AND SPECIFICALLY OF THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, WHICH SEEN HERE AS CHIEF IMPEDIMENT TO SENSIBLE LEGISLATION DESIRED BY BULK OF PEOPLE. EVERY MAJOR PAPER HAS COMMENTED AT LENGTH AND IN STRONGEST LANGUAGE UPON NEED FOR PROMPT AND MEANINGFUL GUN LAWS. CARTOONS AND REPRODUCED GUN ADS FROM AMERICAN MAGAZINES DRIVE POINT HOME. A FEW SAMPLES: FINANCIAL TIMES: "ONE MUST CONCLUDE THAT POLITICAL MURDERS MUCH LESS LIKELY IF GUNS LESS EASILY AVAILABLE AND SOCIALLY ACCEPTABLE". TELEGRAPH: "RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS IS CONCEPT FROM A BYGONE ERA WHEN IT WAS ALLY OF ORDER; NOW IT IS ITS MORTAL ENEMY". SUN: "RIGHT OF EVERY CITIZEN TO BUY A GUN MORE JEALOUSLY GUARDED THAN LIVES OF PUBLIC MEN". EXPRESS: "POWER OF THE NRA IS AN EXTRAORDINARY DEFECT OF AMERICAN POLITICS". DAILY MAIL: "THERE ARE NO WORDS STRONG ENOUGH TO CONDEMN REFUSAL OF US CONGRESS TO PASS STRICT LAWS CONTROLLING SALE OF GUNS". MIRROR: "NO LAW CAN STOP FANATICS, BUT THEY CAN HELP. THE RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS IS NOW A WRONG".

7. ELECTION. ALTHOUGH PRESS BEING VERY CAUTIOUS IN ANALYZING PROBABLE EFFECTS UPON ELECTION, INITIAL REACTION IS THAT SENATOR MCCARTHY NOW A MUCH STRONGER THREAT, BUT THAT DELEGATES RELEASED BY KENNEDY'S DEATH MAY FLOCK TO HUMPHREY BEFORE MCCARTHY CAN CONSOLIDATE NEW POSITION. SEVERAL PAPERS HAVE SUGGESTED THAT NEGROES AND ETHNIC AND POOR VOTERS LIKELY FEEL DISENFRANCHISED AND AT SEA, AND THEIR EVENTUAL CHOICE NOW INDETERMINABLE AND CRUCIAL. FEAR OF HARDENING NEGRO ATTITUDE IS WEDESREAD AND CONSEQUENCE EXPECTED TO BE MORE CITY RIOTS. LOUIS HEREN OF TIMES THINKS SUCH HARDENING LIKELY SWING NEGRO VOTE BEHIND HUMPHREY, WHEREAS IF REACTION IS WIDESPREAD

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PAGE 04 LONDON 09659 072021Z

REVULSION FROM FORCE, LIKELY BENEFIT MCCARTHY. MANY
ARTICLES ON EDWARD KENNEDY HAVE APPEARED THIS MORNING,
WITH STRONG IMPLICATION HE MAY PICK UP TORCH. THE EXPRESS
SUGGESTS THAT NIXON MAY NOW BE SWEEPED INTO OFFICE ON NATIONAL
DEMAND FOR LAW AND ORDER.
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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /086 W

R 071659Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4033

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION TWO OF TWO LONDON 9659

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

8. REACTION OF SOVIET AND BLOC MEDIA TO ASSASSINATION HAS BEEN NOTED BY BOTH PAPERS AND TV, AND DEPLORED AS OPPORTUNIST PROPAGANDA.

9. THIS MORNINGS TIMES PROBABLY SUMS UP THE PRESENT BRITISH MOOD AS WELL AS ANY COMMENT. "THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL BE TEMPTED TO TURN AWAY FROM AMERICA TOO ... FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS SHE HAS EXERCISED LEADERSHIP WITH RESTRAINT AND GENEROSITY ... BUT NOW? THE HABIT OF ASSASSINATION DESTROYS THE AUTHORITY OF ANY COUNTRY ... CERTAINLY AMERICA WILL SURVIVE ROBERT KENNEDY'S DEATH AS IT SURVIVED HIS BROTHER'S. BUT THE MAIN QUESTION FOR 1968 IS NOW NO LONGER WHO IS TO BE NEXT PRESIDENT, BUT HOW THAT SURVIVAL IS TO BE ACHIEVED".

10. COMMENT: AS NOTED, THERE ARE TWO DEFINITE TRENDS IN PRESS COMMENT: A TENDENCY TO GENERALIZE FROM A SPECIFIC EVENT TO CHARACTERIZATION OF AMERICA AS INCREASINGLY DOMINATED BY VIOLENCE, ALIENATION, ETC; AND CRITICISM OF AMERICAN FAILURE CONTROL GUN SALES, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE FAILURE BLAMED ON ALLEGED MINORITY POLITICAL PRESSURE OF QUOTE: GUN LOBBY UNQUOTE WITH NRA SINGLED OUT AS CHIEF VILLAIN. RESULT IS TO CONTRIBUTE FURTHER AND SUBSTANTIALLY TO ANTI-AMERICANISM ALREADY PREVALENT HERE. WE REALIZE ISSUE OF GUN-SALE LEGISLATION WILL NOT BE DECIDED BY FOREIGN OPINION, BUT IF, AS WE SUSPECT,

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SIMILAR REACTIONS OCCURING ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE (WE HAVE
SEEN ONLY FEW REPORTS FROM OTHER POSTS), THIS ADDS
APPRECIABLY TO ALREADY SERIOUS PROBLEM. A REPRESENTATIVE
SELECTION FROM PRESS TREATMENT HERE BEING SENT SEPARATELY
BY AIRGRAM.
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INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, RSR 01, /084 W

R 071420Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9094

UNCLAS ANKARA 6421

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION - REACTION

1. SHOOTING AND SUBSEQUENT DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY
 BLANKED OUT MOST OTHER NEWS IN JUNE 6 AND 7 TURK
 NEWSPAPERS. PRIMIN DEMIREL'S MESSAGE TO FAMILY
 REPORTED. ASSASSIN IDENTIFIED AS PALESTINE ARAB.

2. EDITORIAL REACTION IN PAPERS OF ALL POLITICAL
 PERSUASION DEPLORES ACT, NOTES US SOCIETY "VIOLENT,"
 IN THROES OF "ARMED HATRED." SEVERAL EDITORIALS COM-
 MENT UPON "FURTHER LOSS OF PRESTIGE BY US." FAR LEFT
 PRESS NOTES SENATOR KENNEDY "VOICE OF PEACE IN VIET-
 NAM" AND THIS WHY HE SHOT. LEFTIST PRESS ALSO
 IGNORES NATIONALITY AND BACKGROUND OF ASSASSIN, SEES
 HAND OF "VESTED INTERESTS" BEHIND DEATH.
 HART

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POL 645/Kennedy,
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TELEGRAM

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INFO USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /069 W

R 071041Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2778
INFO AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 3891

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

SUB: PRESS ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. NEWS KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PROMINENTLY FEATURED TRIPOLI PRESS AGAIN JUNE 7, DRAWING BANNER HEADLINES, MULTI-PAGE COVERAGE AND MAJOR EDITORIALS IN TRIPOLI DAILIES AL RAAYID AND AL YOOM AND AL ALAM ONLY ARABIC PAPERS PUBLISHED TODAY.

2. LOCAL PAPERS HAVE REPORTED BUT NOT HIGHLIGHTED STORY SARHAN DIARY ENTRY THREATENING ASSASSINATE SENATOR KENNEDY BY JUNE 5 AND OTHER ALLEGATIONS SARHAN HATRED OF ISRAEL AND ANTI-SEMITISM.

3. FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL IN AL YOOM MENTIONED PRIME MINISTER BAKKUUSH'S STATEMENT TO PRESS DURING CURRENT VISIT TO MOROCCO EXPRESSING REGRET OVER ASSASSINATION AND CONVEYING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES TO KENNEDY FAMILY. WRITER CONFRONTED FACT SARHAN OF ARAB EXTRACTION AND STRONGLY DENOUNCED ASSASSINATION "AND MATTER WHAT PUSHED SARHAN TO HIS ACTION". WRITER STATED, QTE ZIONISM HAS NOW FOUND GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM ITS UGLY CRIMES IN PALESTINE. UNQTE EDITORIAL ASSERTED "ALL ARABS DENOUNCE ASSASSINATION; SUCH AGGRESSIVE ACTS ARE NOT IN ARAB INTERESTS." EDITORIAL CONCLUDED, "WHILE EXPRESSING OUR GREAT REGRET AND CONDOLENCES TO AMERICAN PEOPLE, WE PRO-

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FOUNDLY HOPE THIS INCIDENT WILL NOT AFFECT UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ARABS AND AMERICA."

4. AL ALAM EDITORIAL OBSERVED THAT ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY MET BY LIBYAN PUBLIC OPINION WITH SENSE OF SHOCK AND CONDEMNATION. WRITER ADDED THAT THERE IS FEELING "THAT A MEAN ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE PLOT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN ORDER SPREAD THE SEEDS OF HATRED IN AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST THE ARABS. IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT ALL NEWS COVERAGE OF THE EVENT CONCENTRATES ON MENTIONING THE REPORTED ASSASSIN'S DESCENT." ALL ARABS, THE COMMENTARY POINTED OUT, HAVE CONDEMNED THE KILLING, INCLUDING THE AL FATAH ARAB COMMANDO ORGANIZATION.

5. IN BACK PAGE EDITORIAL, AL RAA'ID OFFERED PROFOUND CONDOLENCES TO KENNEDY FAMILY, THE NEGROES, AND THE POOR. WRITER SAID ALL ARABS STRONGLY CONDEMNED ACT, AND THAT "WE SPIT ON ASSASSIN". EDITOR ASSERTED ASSASSINATION AN INDIVIDUAL ACT, UNCONNECTED WITH NATIONAL MOTIVE OR SPECIFIC PLOT, BUT ADDED, "PERHAPS ZIONIST MOVEMENT BEHIND THE CRIME AND HOPING TO BENEFIT FROM IT". AS PROOF, WRITER ADDUCED "TWO FACTS": FIRST, ZIONISM WORKS BY VIOLENCE AND CONSPIRACY AS EVIDENCED BERNADOTTE ASSASSINATION AND EICHMANN JUDGMENT. SECONDLY, ARABS THROUGHOUT HISTORY UNFAMILIAR WITH ASSASSINATION AND AGAINST VIOLENCE. WRITER CONCLUDED BY PRAISING KENNEDY FOR HIS CONDEMNATION VIETNAM WAR, CONCERN FOR NEGRO RIGHTS AND REGARD FOR POOR AND SUFFERING OF ALL COUNTRIES. "WORLD WEEPS FOR HIS HONORABLE STANDS AND ALL PEOPLE SORROW AT HIS DEATH. KENNEDY WILL REMAIN ALIVE IN HEARTS OF MAN AND WILL HAVE WHITE PAGE IN HISTORY. WORLD HAS LOST A MAN WHO CALLED FOR PEACE, WHO CARRIED MESSAGE OF JUSTICE AND WAS AMERICAN CITIZEN, LOYAL TO HIS COUNTRY AND TO WORLD." NEWSOM

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INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /069 W

P 071205Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
 TO USINFO WASHINGTON PRIORITY
 INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5714

UNCLAS AMMAN 5231

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FOR IPS/IBS

SUBJ: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. AMMAN TELEVISION'S FIRST FIVE ITEMS NIGHT
 JUNE 6 DEVOTED COVERAGE MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY FROM
 KING HUSSEIN TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND MEMBERS OF
 THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

2. DUSTOUR, WHICH IS ONLY DAILY PUBLISHED ON
 FRIDAYS, DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE FRONTPAGE SPACE JUNE 7
 TO TRAGEDY, SAYING: "...NO MATTER WHAT THE JUSTIFICATION
 FOR THE CRIME, IT CAUSES GRIEF AND RESENTMENT." THE
 EDITORIAL CONTINUED: "KENNEDY, SENATOR, POLITICIAN AND
 A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, IS NOT IN THE ARAB VIEWPOINT
 WORSE THAN OTHER AMERICAN LEADERS WHO ADOPTED THE POLICY
 OF CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL....SENATOR KENNEDY WAS
 A LIBERAL AMONG THE US LEADERS - HE WAS MOST
 STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE RIGHT OF NEGROES -- WHO SIN-
 CERELY FEEL WITH THE ARAB RIGHT IN PALESTINE. HE
 WAS 'PROGRESSIVE' IN HIS IDEAS IF COMPARED TO MC-
 CARTHY, REAGAN AND OTHER PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES..
 ARABS WHO KNEW THE REALITY OF THE US SITUATION WERE
 HOPING THAT KENNEDY'S VICTORY...WOULD LEAD TO A BETTER
 UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARAB RIGHT IN PALESTINE. FOR
 THESE REASONS, IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND THE MOTIVES

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BEHIND SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S SHOOTING OF THE YOUNG SENATOR. IT IS PREMATURE TO ACCUSE SIRHAN OF MURDER, AND WE AWAIT CLARIFICATION. MEANTIME, WE EXPRESS OUR GRIEF AND CONDEMN THE ACT. ARAB MORALS REJECT THE POLICY OF ASSASSINATION NO MATTER WHAT THE JUSTIFICATION. ANTI-ARAB PROPAGANDA MEDIA WILL TRY TO USE THIS TERRIBLE INCIDENT TO DEEPEN THE GAP OF DOUBT AND MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ARAB AND AMERICAN NATIONS. THE AMERICANS ARE MISTAKEN TO ALLOW THEMSELVES TO FALL IN THIS EVIL TRAP. WHICH IS IN NEITHER THE ARAB NOR AMERICAN INTERESTS. NO SANE ARAB WOULD SUPPORT THE CRIME. AND THE AMERICANS ARE CALLED TO PONDER THE CRIME. ANALYZE THE MOTIVES, DEVOID OF EMOTIONS. THEN THEY WILL DISCOVER THAT BOTH ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT WHICH IS CONSPIRING AGAINST BOTH THE ARABS AND AMERICANS."

3. FEELINGS OF THE MIDDLE CLASS JORDANIAN REFLECTED FOLLOWING COMMENTS HEARD DURING DINNER OFFERED BY JORDANIAN FOR ABOUT 40 FRIENDS (TEACHERS, CONTRACTORS, PHARMACISTS, DOCTORS) ON EVENING JUNE 6: "WE ARE SORRY ABOUT THE ASSASSINATION. THIS DOES NOT SOLVE OUR PROBLEM. WE DO NOT HAVE ANYTHING PERSONAL AGAINST SEN. KENNEDY. HIS STATEMENT ABOUT GIVING THE ISRAELIS ADDITIONAL AMERICAN FIGHTER JETS PROBABLY JUST ATTEMPT TO GET VOTES. SORRY THAT FATHER OF BIG FAMILY CUT DOWN LIKE THIS." CONSENSUS THIS PARTICULAR GROUP JORDANIANS THAT THE REASON FOR WHICH PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY WAS SLAIN 5 YEARS AGO WAS HIS INTENTION "SOLVE OUR PROBLEM." SEVERAL SUGGESTED THAT SEN. KENNEDY MAY HAVE MET HIS FATE FOR SIMILAR REASONS. ALSO GENERAL FEELING AMONG THIS GROUP THAT "ARAB CAUSE WILL BE HURT BY THE ASSASSINATION; THE ENEMY WILL USE THIS AGAINST THE ARABS."

4. EDITOR AND OWNER OF ONE OF AMMAN'S WEEKLY NEWS-PAPERS SAID "WHEN I HEARD ABOUT THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY, I WAS ALARMED AND COMPLETELY SHOCKED. ESPECIALLY WHEN I HEARD THAT THE ASSASSIN WAS AN ARAB FROM THE JERUSALEM AREA. SUCH AN ACT WILL HAVE A BAD EFFECT ON ARAB-AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE ARAB WORLD WAS HOPING AND EXPECTING SENATOR KENNEDY'S ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY WOULD HELP SOLVE THE

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PALESTINIAN PROBLEM."

5. MANY JORDANIANS WENT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY
TODAY TO SIGN THE ROBERT F. KENNEDY MEMORIAL BOOK-ITEM

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
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INFO USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, XSR 01, /069 W

R 071545Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1120
 INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
 AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
 /AMCONSUL DURBAN 114

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 1464

JOINT EMB-CONGEN-USIS

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION: FURTHER REACTIONS

1. OFFICIALS, DIPLOMATS AND CITIZENRY OF ALL RACES SIGNING
 CONDOLENCE BOOK IN STEADY FLOW. PRESS COVERAGE OF WORLD
 REACTION, FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS, ETC., COMPLETE, AND
 EDITORIAL ASSESSMENTS CONTINUE. BEYOND TELEGRAMS AND
 PHONE CALLS FROM GENERAL PUBLIC, AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE
 RECEIVED NUMEROUS PERSONAL CONDOLENCES FROM SOUTH AFRICANS.

2. RELIGIOUS SERVICES HELD BY ROMAN CATHOLICS AND ANGLICANS,
 AND REMEMBRANCE OF FAMILY IN PRAYERS TO TAKE PLACE SUNDAY
 AT METHODIST, PRESBYTERIAN AND DUTCH REFORMED CHURCHES.
 I ATTENDED CROWDED RC REQUIEM MASS YESTERDAY AT WHICH
 ARCHBISHOP OF CAPE TOWN, OWEN CARDINAL MCCANN, MADE
 PUBLIC REQUEST I TRANSMIT CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY.

3. CT MAYOR FERRY, SIGNING CONDOLENCE BOOK, SAID HE HAD
 SENT TELEGRAM ON BEHALF PEOPLE OF CT TO MRS KENNEDY.

4. CAPE TIMES CARRIES TRIBUTES OF COLIN EGLIN AND R.
 HURLEY, CAPE LEADERS OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY; TOM SWARTZ,
 CHMN COUNCIL FOR COLORED AFFAIRS; AND MRS MARIA MALAN,
 WIFE OF FORMER PRIMIN. MRS MALAN, WHO MET SENATOR
 ON VISIT HERE TWOYEARS AGO, NOTED THEIR DIFFERING OPINIONS.

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BUT SAID "I WAS FORCED TO RESPECT HIM" FOR COURAGE OF HIS CONVICTIONS. SHE MOURNED "NOT ONLY LOSS OF GREAT MAN, BUT LOSS OF FATHER AND HUSBAND".

5. TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM DIR COMMUNITY CENTER AT GUGULETUS COMMUNITY (AFRICAN LOCATION CT) READS AS FOLLOWS: "GUGULETU DEEPLY MOURNS DEATH OF AMERICA'S ROYAL SON ROBERT KENNEDY".

6. BURGER STORY "TWO YEARS AGO AT STELLENBOSCH" RECALLS KENNEDY VISIT THERE AND REPORTS PREFECT OF MEN'S HOSTEL, SIMONSBURG, WILL SEND CONDOLENCE CABLE TO MRS KENNEDY ON BEHALF RESIDENTS.

7. CAPE TIMES ROUNDED UP COMMENTS ON CAUSES OF ASSASSINATION FROM PARLIAMENTARIANS, WHO VOICED IDEAS SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS: TOO MANY PEOPLE REACHING "FRUSTRATION TOLERANCE" TOO EASILY, EAST HAVE INCREASING INFLUENCE ON WEST, SPIRIT OF RECKLESSNESS AND IRRESPONSIBILITY PERMEATING WORLD, AND PEOPLE BEING LED INTO VIOLENCE IN SEARCH OF NEW MEANING IN LIVES. THOSE COMMENTING WERE PAUL VAN DER MERWE, D VAN DEN HEEVER AND D CARR OF NP, CATHERINE TAYLOR, DR G JACOBS AND A HOPEWELL OF UP, AND SUZMAN OF PROGRESSIVES.

8. EDITORIAL REACTIONS JUNE 7:

A. CAPE TIMES ASSESSED ABILITY OF MEN OF KENNEDY FAMILY TO "LOOK AT THINGS AFRESH" IN GRAPPLING WITH NEED FOR "DYNAMIC CHANGE", AND SUGGESTED THAT SENATOR KENNEDY CARRIED EVEN "MORE HOPES" FOR THIS THAN PRESIDENT KENNEDY. "THIS KIND OF THINKING WAS CLEAR; HE WAS ON THE SIDE OF PEOPLE-- NOT 'THE PEOPLE' ... BUT PEOPLE, HUMAN BEINGS, MEN AND WOMEN, BLACK OR WHITE, POOR OR RICH". NOTED PROFOUND DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS OUTLOOK AND THAT OF "MANY POLITICIANS ... FOR TENDENCY AMONG MEN WHO HAVE BEEN IN POWER FOR SOME TIME IS TO CONSIDER THE SYSTEM IMPORTANT, ALMOST SACROSANCT. SOME CONSERVATISM IS ALWAYS NECESSARY. BUT IN REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD LIKE PRESENT IT IS PERILOUS IF OVERDONE... MANY OF US EXPECTED ENOUGH (OF KENNEDYS) TO MAKE US BEWEP THESE MURDERS, EVEN BEYOND THEIR POIGNANCY AS HUMAN TRAGEDIES."

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B. ARGUS POINTED OUT FEAR OF MANY SAFRICANS AT MOUNTING SUPPORT FOR SENATOR'S CANDIDACY, BUT SAID "EVIDENCE SUGGESTS HE WOULD HAVE BEEN REALISTIC AND EFFECTIVE PRESIDENT WHO WOULD HAVE RESISTED PRESSURES FOR IMPRACTICABLE 'SOLUTIONS' TO RACIAL PROBLEMS". ILLUSTRATED THIS CONTENTION BY FACT SENATOR CAME TO SAFRICA TO SEE FOR HIMSELF, AND ALTHOUGH HE FOUND APARTHEID REPUGNANT, HIS OBJECTIONS TO IT DID NOT CLOUD HIS JUDGMENT, AND HE SAID CATEGORICALLY THAT SA NO THREAT TO PEACE. MOREOVER HE CAME OUT AGAINST ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AND URGED CONTINUING DIALOGUE.

C. BURGER LINKS ASSASSIN WITH "TERRORISTS", HOPING COMMISSION ON VIOLENCE WILL LEAD USG TO UNCONDITIONAL CONDEMNATION OF TERRORISM. SAYS NO DOUBT THERE WILL BE PEOPLE IN WORLD WHO WOULD REGARD ASSASSIN AS "FREEDOM FIGHTER". BUT BETTER DESCRIPTION IS "DEVILSIN CRIMINAL, WHOSE SHOTS NOT ONLY WOUNDED HIS VICTIM, BUT ALSO AMERICAN CIVILIZATION". RHETORICALLY ASKS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIM AND TRAINED TERRORISTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. BY CONDONING THEIR DEED INCREASING SPIRIT OF VIOLENCE IN WORLD CANNOT BE HALTED.

9. CONSIDERABLE PRESS ATTENTION TO EFFECT OF ASSASSINATION ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN AND NEW SITUATION OF SEN EDWARD KENNEDY AS BEARER OF FAMILY'S POLITICAL FORTUNES.

10. FURTHER REACTIONS WILL BE REPORTED BY AIRGRAM UNLESS ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY. ROUNTREE

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INFO SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, SSD 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, /068

R 071935Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4766

INFO AMCONSUL COCHABAMBA UNN

*La Paz 4849
6/7/68*

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION KENNEDY SHOOTING

REFERENCE: LA PAZ 4823

1. ALTHOUGH KENNEDY ASSASSIN EARLY IDENTIFIED BY PRESS AS JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT RESENTFUL OF NEW YORK SENATOR'S POSITION TOWARD ARAB WORLD, EDITORIAL AND POLITICAL COMMENT CONTINUES LARGELY IGNORE IN FAVOR OF "SICK SOCIETY" AND "REACTIONARY CAPITALIST FORCES" THESIS.

2. JORNADA, JUNE 6, DISMISSED ISOLATED ACT OF VENGEANCE THEORY AS "NOTHING MORE THAN GIGANTIC SCREEN OF PUBLICITY STIMULATED BY OPINION FAVORABLE TO SUCH INTERPRETATIONS." PRESENCIA REPORTER, CONCLUDING STREET POLL, SUMMARIZED LA PAZ OPINION SAMPLE AS MAINTAINING THAT "ROBERT KENNEDY HAS BEEN CUT DOWN BY CONSPIRACY OF THE ENEMIES OF POOR, OF THE NEGRO AND OF JUSTICE" (SIMILAR JORNADA STREET POLL TAKEN PREVIOUS DAY REVEALED NO SUCH THEORIZING BUT SIMPLY REFLECTED GRIEF AT EVENT). IN MOST MEASURED EDITORIAL STATEMENT BY ANY PAPER TO DATE, DIARIO FELT COMPELLED MAKE COMPARISON WITH EVENTS IN DALLAS, HOWEVER CONCLUDING THAT WHILE BOTH ASSASSINS MAY HAVE CONSTITUTED PART OF CONSPIRACY, "SUCH AN EVALUATION IS ENTIRELY SUBJECTIVE AND TOTALLY LACKING BASIS IN FACT."

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3. REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING PERMANENT COMMISSION OF CONGRESS EVENING JUNE 6 WAS DEVOTED TO HOMAGE SENATOR KENNEDY. REPRESENTATIVES PSD, PIR, PRA AND FSB SPOKE BRIEFLY TO HONOR THE SENATOR, WHILE MPC DEPUTY FRANZ ONADARZA, REPEATING HIS EARLIER STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS (SEE REFTTEL) BLAMED SHOOTING ON "SINISTER FORCES OF A BLIND, MATERIALIST AND INHUMAN CAPITALISM." VICE PRESIDENT SILES DELIVERED BRIEF EULOGY FOLLOWED BY MINUTE OF SILENCE, AFTER WHICH COMMISSION ADJOURNED IN KENNEDY'S HONOR.

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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R 071015Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL SALISBURY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1120
INFO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 209

UNCLAS SALISBURY 969

FREETOWN FOR PALMER

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION.

1. THERE HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD SHOCK AND DISTRESS IN RHODESIA OVER KENNEDY ASSASSINATION DESPITE FACT HIS POLITICAL VIEWS WERE NOT POPULAR HERE. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED HEAVY VOLUME PHONE CALLS EXPRESSING DISMAY AND SYMPATHY WITH ONLY ONE OF HOSTILE VARIETY. REGIME MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL ALSO CALLED AND EXPRESSED SIMILAR INFORMAL VIEWS.

2. IN PARLIAMENT JUNE 6 REGIME PRIMIN SMITH SAID QUOTE WHAT AN INCREDIBLE WORLD WE LIVE IN WHERE WE SEE WAR, REVOLUTION, STRIKES, BEATINGS, BURNINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS SUCH AS THE TRAGIC ASSASSINATION WE HAVE RECENTLY SEEN AND WHICH CAN ONLY BE DEPLORED. NO MATTER WHETHER ONE AGREES WITH THE POLITICAL THINKING OF A PERSON OR NOT, WHAT A FANTASTIC WAY TO SETTLE YOUR DIFFERENCES, ESPECIALLY IN THE CIVILIZED WORLD AND ESPECIALLY IN COUNTRIES WHICH CLAIM WE ARE A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE UNQUOTE.

3. SATISFACTION THAT RHODESIA IS PRESENTLY FREE FROM TYPE OF VIOLENCE SEEN IN AMERICA HAS BEEN TINGED IN RADIO AND PRESS COMMENT WITH CONCERN OVER GROWING VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE. RHODESIA HERALD EDITORIAL JUNE 6 OBSERVES QUOTE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE NOT FACED MERELY WITH THE HORROR OF VIOLENCE AND PERSONAL TRAGEDY., THEY ARE FACED WITH A TERRIBLE THREAT TO THE CHARACTER OF POLITICS ITSELF UNQUOTE. BULAWAYO CHRONICLE SAME DATE SAYS

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BRUTAL, SENSELESS SHOOTING OF ROBERT KENNEDY QUOTE IS AN APPALLING
INDICTMENT OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY...WHATEVER ONE MAY THINK OF
THE KENNEDYS THEY ARE A REMARKABLE FAMILY OF EXTRAORDINARY
ENERGY AND ABILITY...SOUTHERN AFRICA FOR ALL THE ABUSE HURLED
AT IT (BY AMERICANS AMONG OTHERS) CAN THANK GOD THAT THIS IS
ONE CHARGE THAT CANNOT BE MADE AGAINST IT UP TO NOW - THOUGH THE
UNITED NATIONS IN ITS LATEST RESOLUTIONS, WOULD APPEAR TO BE BENT
ON GIVING INNER QUOTE MORAL AND MATERIAL AID END INNER QUOTE TO
THOSE BENT ON THIS COURSE END QUOTE.
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ROBERT F

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ACTION EA 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, RSR 01, RSC 01, /067 W

R 071355Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4229

UNCLAS SAIGON 29359

SUBJECT: STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT THIEU ON LEARNING OF
SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY

1. THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU ISSUED A
STATEMENT JUNE 6 UPON LEARNING OF THE SHOOTING OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY. (THE STATEMENT PRE-DATED
THE SENATORS DEATH). THE ENGLISH TEXT OF THAT STATEMENT
(WHICH APPEARED IN JUNE 6 EVENING EDITION OF VIETNAM
PRESS) FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT NGUYEN VAN THIEU WAS GREATLY SHOCKED
TO LEARN OF THE WANTON ATTEMPT AGAINST THE LIFE OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA,
YESTERDAY.

DIVERGENCE OF OPINIONS ALWAYS EXIST IN FREE SOCIETIES,
AND FORM THE FABRIC AND CONDITIONS OF OUR SYSTEM OF
DEMOCRACY.

IT IS PRECISELY TO PRESERVE THESE BASIC FREEDOMS
AGAINST TOTALITARIANISM, VIOLENCE, AND TERROR, THAT
ALLIED GOVERNMENTS ARE STRUGGLING IN VIETNAM.

THE PRESIDENT THEREFORE DEEPLY DEPLORES THAT A
RUTHLESS ATTEMPT WAS MADE AGAINST THE LIFE OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY ON ACCOUNT OF HIS POLITICAL OPINIONS.

THE PRESIDENT HOPES AND PRAYS FOR THE PROMPT AND COMPLETE
RECOVERY OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. HE EXPRESSES HIS HEART-
FELT SYMPATHY TO THE SENATOR'S FAMILY, AND ALWAYS REMEMBERS
THE GREAT CONTRIBUTION OF THE LATE PRESIDENT JOHN F.

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25

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 29359 071427Z

KENNEDY TO THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM IN VIETNAM. UNQUOTE.
BUNKER

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POL 645/Kennedy,
Robert F.
TELEGRAM

25

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 174

PAGE 01 LISBON 01542 071526Z

50

ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,P 04,USIE 00,RSR 01,RSC 01,NSC 10,1060

R 071505Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2155
INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1542

SUBJ: FURTHER REACTIONS TO ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR KENNEDY

REF: LISBON 1539

PASS USIA

1. CABLE FROM FONMIN FRANCO NOGUEIRA TO SECSTATE
FRONT-PAGED IN MOST LISBON DAILIES AS FOLLOWS:
"HAVING JUST RECEIVED NEWS OF DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT
KENNEDY OCCURRING IN TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES, I WISH TO
EXPRESS MY PROFOUND SORROW AT THE GRIEF WHICH ENTIRE
AMERICAN NATION FEELS BEFORE THE VIOLENT CRIME WHICH
MERITS CONDEMNATION OF ALL MEN. I WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR KINDNESS IN TRANSMITTING TO MRS. KENNEDY AND
HER FAMILY MY CONDOLENCES.

2. LISBON PRESS CONTINUES TO BE DOMINATED BY NEWS OF
KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. COVERAGE IS EXTENSIVE AND
GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC, WHICH IS NOTABLE SINCE SENATOR
WAS NOT A GOP FAVORITE AND FULL PLAY OF NEWS PRESUMABLY
BEING AUTHORIZED BY GOVT CENSOR. EDITORIAL COMMENT,
ON OTHER HAND, CONTINUES AT HIGHLY ANTI-AMERICAN PITCH
WITH EMPHASIS ON RACISM, FAR WEST TRADITION OF VIOLENCE
AND "GANGSTERISM" IN US, FALL OF AMERICAN PRESTIGE
OVERSEAS, CONSEQUENCES OF DECADENT DEMOCRACY AND
EFFECTS OF HIGHLY MATERIALISTIC TECHNOLOGICALLY
ADVANCED SOCIETY ON SPIRIT OF MAN.

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PAGE 02 LISBON 01542 071526Z

3. IT WOULD BE NATURAL TO ASSUME THERE IS TIME LAG IN EDITORIAL COMMENT POSSIBLY DRAFTED DURING INITIAL PERIOD OF SHOCK WHEN IT MAY HAVE BEEN ASSUMED THAT ASSASSINATION WAS CONSEQUENCE OF DOMESTIC US ISSUES. HOWEVER, OFFICIAL GOP THESIS THAT BY COMPARISON THEIR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATION NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO SHOCKS AND INSTABILITY OF FORCES AFFECTING WESTERN SOCIETY IS EASILY DISCERNIBLE IN PRESS COMMENTS.

4. POPULAR REACTION: LARGE NUMBER EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY RECEIVED IN PERSON, BY TELEPHONE AND IN WRITING AND COMMENTS RECEIVED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS FROM VARIED GROUP OF PERSONS DEMONSTRATE SYMPATHETIC REACTION TO BEREAVEMENT OF SENATOR'S FAMILY AND THE AMERICAN NATION AND PROFOUND IMPRESSION MADE BY HIS DEATH.

WELLMAN

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57 Pol. 6 U.S./Kennedy,
Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
25

UNCLASSIFIED 913

PAGE 01 SANTO 02766 071246Z

42

ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SA 01, AID 28, PC 04, NIC 01, RSR 01,

/116 W

R 070025Z JUN 68 ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5409
INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS UNN.

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2766

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

1. JUNE 6 STATEMENT BY BALAGUER CALLED KENNEDY "REPRESENTATIVE LEADER OF HIS GENERATION'S POLITICAL IDEALS" AND "ACTIVE DEFENDER OF SOCIAL PROGRESS OF PEOPLE WHO FIGHT FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT IN EVERY CLASS. HIS TRAGIC DEATH IS A PAINFUL SYMBOL OF THE VIOLENCE WHICH DRAGS HUMANITY DOWN A DARK PATH."

2. PRESIDENT SENT MRS. KENNEDY CABLE CONDOLENCE IN PART DESCRIBING LATE HUSBAND AS "AUTHENTIC CHAMPION OF THE MOST NOBLE AND JUST CAUSES."

3. PALACE ANNOUNCED DAY NATIONAL MOURNING TO COINCIDE WITH BURIAL DAY. CRIMMINS

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Santo Domingo
2766
6-7-68



59 Fol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 472

PAGE 01 SANTO 02772 071806Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO USIE 00,INS 03,VO 02,SCA 02,SSO 00,RSR 01,NSCE 00,CPR 02,GPM 04,
H 02,NSC 10,0 02,OPR 02,P 04,RSC 01,SS 20,SY 03,/074 W

O 071800Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5415
AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 2772

SUBJECT: PRD DELEGATION TO KENNEDY FUNERAL
REF: SD 2762

1. FOURTH PRD LEADER, SENATOR PABLO RAFAEL CASIMIRO CASTRO,
JOINING THREE OTHERS (REFTEL) GOING NY FOR KENNEDY FUNERAL.

2. REPEAT REQUEST DEPT URGENTLY INFORM INS ORDER TO
FACILITATE ENTRY NEW YORK.

EXEMPT
CRIMMINS

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Department of State

Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F
TELEGRAM
3

UNCLASSIFIED 876

PAGE 01 SANTO 02767 070105Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SAH 03, /113 W
.....

R 070025Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5410

INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS UNN

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2767

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY SHOOTING

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 2739

1. NACIONAL PUBLISHED EXTRA NOON EDITION JUNE 5 WITH FRONT PAGE FULL WIRE SERVICE REPORTS. REGULAR EDITION MAINTAINED HEAVY COVERAGE PLUS RESPONSES INCLUDING PCO ("LIBERAL PATH IN THE US WILL NOT OPEN WHILE THE NORTHAMERICAN TERRORISTS CONTROL THAT COUNTRY") AND RAHINTEL RADIO-TV STATION ("VICTIM OF A NEW ATTEMPT WHICH TRIES TO CLOSE THE PASSAGE TO MEN OF HUMANIST CHARACTER AND FUTURIST VISION"). SANTIAGO'S AFTERNOON INFORMATION HEADLINED ATTACK AND FOLLOWED UP WITH UPI ACCOUNTS.

2. MORNING PRESS JUNE 6 SATURATED WITH WIRE AND LOCAL COVERAGE OF SHOOTING (PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF NEWS OF DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY). FRONT PAGES CARIBE AND LISTIN ALMOST COMPLETELY DEVOTED NEWS, REACTION AND PHOTOS. RIGHTIST EL TIEMPO FRONT-PAGED EDITORIAL TITLED "VIOLENCE DOES NOT SOLVE PROBLEMS" (LEAD EDITORIAL DAY BEFORE HAD BEEN "A DANGEROUS CANDIDATE"). CARIBE VIEW, TITLED HORROR! WAS THAT US NEEDS "SERIOUS EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE" WHILE LISTIN SHARED "GRIEF OF THE UNITED STATES PEOPLE." BOTH PRAISED KENNEDY'S SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING LATIN AMERICA, WHILE LISTIN STATED THAT "IT COULD BE SAID WITH TRUTH THAT SENATOR KENNEDY IS THE LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY."

3. PRESS REPORTED WIDESPREAD LOCAL COMMENTS. SENATE ADOPTED RESOLUTION JUNE 5 CONDEMNING "MONSTROUS AND CRIMINAL PUR-

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2767



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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 SANTO 02767 070105Z

POSE". AFTER VOTING DOWN PRD MOTION ABANDON SESSION. SANTO DOMINGO COUNCILMEN APPROVED TELEGRAM CONDOLENCE MRS. KENNEDY. MAYOR BAEZ ACOSTA SPOKE AT LENGTH ON SHOOTING ASKING HOW COULD PRESIDENT JOHNSON SEND US TROOPS SAID "TO PROTECT LIVES" TO "TRAMPLE OUR LAND AND KILL DOMINICANS WHEN... IN HIS OWN COUNTRY A MR. KENNEDY AND A MR. KING COULD NOT BE SAVED." DEPUTY CHAMBER PRESIDENT BADIA LARA (ONE OF SEVERAL CONGRESSMEN WHO EXPRESSED SORROW TO CARIBE) HOPED KENNEDY COULD RECOVER AND BE PRESIDENT. PRSC EX-CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR HERE FELO FLORES SAID HE WAS "DISTRESSED BEYOND MEASURE" AND FORMER COUNCIL OF STATE PRESIDENT RAFAEL BONNELLY SAID "IT IS SIMPLY SOMETHING WHICH HORRIFIES." FOR MIN AMIAMA TIO "DEEPLY" LA- MENTED ATTACK BY "BLIND FORCES" ON KENNEDY "WHO BELONGS TO A NOBLE ELITE OF NORTHAMERICAN POLITICANS." MPD BLAMED "WARLIKE MONOPOLIES" IN US WHERE "A MAN REPRESENTING KENNEDY'S IDEAS WILL NOT ATTAIN POWER". CRIMMINS

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HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE: June 7, 1968

REF

L Enclosures : 7

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Algiers A-459
2

Enclosure No. 6: Algeria Presse Service editorial: "Who armed the assassin?" (June 7, 1968).

Enclosure No. 7: Statement issued by Palestine liberation movement "El Feth" in Algiers, (June 7, 1968).

HOFFACKER

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Robert Kennedy et le sionisme

La campagne électorale bat son plein aux Etats-Unis. Les différents candidats à la présidence font feu de tout bois pour gagner les bulletins du corps électoral américain.

Les uns ont leur propagande sur le Vietnam, d'autres sur le problème des Noirs. Robert Kennedy pour sa part, a fait acte de foi sioniste devant la communauté juive de Portland (Oregon).

Ressortant le cliché écoulé du mythe dépassé d'« Israël — petit pays pacifique » le candidat aux élections présidentielles de novembre a déclaré : « Nous nous sommes engagés à faire survivre Israël, nous devons maintenant la sécurité d'Israël contre toute agression extérieure, par les armes si c'est nécessaire ».

Point n'est besoin pour nous de souligner le caractère ridicule des affirmations du sénateur américain quant à « l'agression extérieure qui menacerait Israël. L'Histoire a démontré et notamment les événements depuis le 5 juin dernier, de quel côté se situe l'agression et le mépris des Nations unies. L'occupation de vastes portions de territoires, l'annexion de Jérusalem, la répression sanglante qui suit contre des populations civiles ne sont pas, à ce qu'on sache, le fait des Arabes.

A moins que M. Kennedy ne soit mal informé ou aveugle pour ignorer des réalités connues de tous.

En vérité, il n'est ni l'un ni l'autre. Le sénateur n'exprime que l'opinion du « système américain » et confirme ainsi ce que nous avons toujours dénoncé ici à savoir qu'Israël n'est qu'une base de l'impérialisme au Moyen-Orient.

S'agissant du sionisme et de la lutte contre le mouvement de libération arabe, la « Sainte Alliance » se fait rapidement aux Etats-Unis. « Kennedy-le-Libéral » emboîte le pas à Johnson et fait lui aussi de la « sécurité d'Israël », son cheval de bataille.

Ces prises de position n'étonnent guère du reste les Arabes, pour qui l'extirpation du sionisme du Moyen-Orient reste le devoir le plus sacré, n'en déplaise à M. Kennedy et consorts.

Algers, El Moudjahid
June 6, 1968

ROBERT KENNEDY VICTIME D'UN ATTENTAT A LOS ANGELES

« Etat extrême-
ment critique,
il pourrait bien
y rester »
disent
ses médecins
- 250 000 dollars
de caution pour
l'agresseur
Sirhan Sirhan



ROBERT Kenne-
dy, frère du
président as-
sassiné, 43 ans, séna-
teur de l'Etat de New
York, candidat démo-
crate aux élections pré-
sidentielles de novembre
prochain a été l'objet
hier matin à Los Ange-
lès, d'un attentat. Le
sénateur venait de ter-
miner un discours où il
annonçait sa victoire
électorale en Californie.

Atteint de plusieurs
balles, dont deux dans
la tête, il a été immé-
diatement opéré. A
l'heure où nous mettons
sous presse, son état est
jugé extrêmement criti-
que par ses médecins.
« Il a, disent-ils, une
toute petite chance de
s'en sortir. »

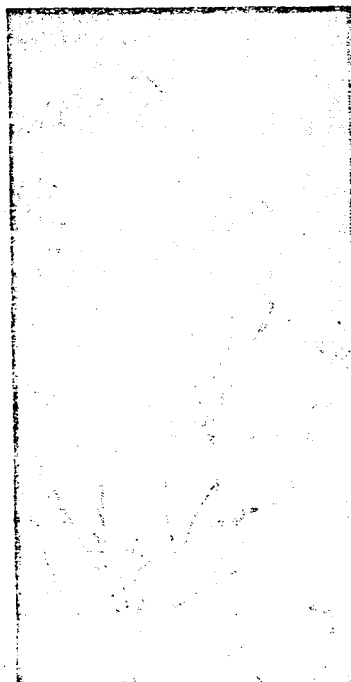
Son présumé agres-
seur, Sirhan Sirhan, âgé
de 23 ans, est arrêté.
Les autorités de Los
Angeles après avoir dit
qu'il s'agissait soit d'un
Jamaïcain, soit d'un
Cubain laissent mainte-
nant entendre qu'il est
d'origine arabe. On
peut se poser des ques-
tions sur les véritables
motifs de telles insinua-
tions.
(Lire nos informations
en page 6)

Algers, El Moudjahid June 7, 1968.
ALGERS ET EL MUDJAHID

ROBERT KENNEDY a succombé à ses blessures

DIMANCHE, DEUIL NATIONAL AUX ETATS-UNIS

ROBERT
Kennedy
est mort
hier matin à
l'hôpital du Bon
Samaritain de
Los Angeles.
Maintenant
tous les regards
se tournent
vers l'homme
accusé de cet
assassinat, Sir-
han Sirhan.
Son interroga-
toire se pour-
suit, mais sans
succès car jus-
qu'à présent
Sirhan Sirhan
n'a pas parlé.
Après les ru-
mours répandus
par les
autorités de Ca-
lifornie sur une
prétendue ori-
gine jordanien-
ne de l'assassin,
Sirhan a dé-
claré, par la
voix de son
Premier minis-
tre qu'il n'exis-
tait aucun Jor-
darien de ce
nom. Après la
mort de Ro-
bert Kennedy
on enregistrera
dans le monde
de nombreuses
réactions.



Enclosures 2-4
Algiers A-459

NOUS SOMMES MARQUES PAR LA VIOLENCE

LES Américains sont
le peuple le plus
effrayant de la
planète », a déclaré, mer-
credi soir, M. Arthur
Schlesinger, conseiller de
l'ancien président Kenne-
dy, puis de son frère Ro-
bert, au cours d'une allo-
cution qu'il prononçait à
l'occasion d'une remise de
diplômes à 38 étudiants
de City College, à New-
York.

Emu au point d'en-
lacher des larmes, M. Schlesinger a
ajouté : « Depuis trois
ans, nous tuons des gens
de l'autre côté du monde.
Nous avons déjà assassi-
né deux citoyens qui per-
sonnifiaient l'idéalisme
américain à l'étranger et
hier nous avons tenté d'en
assassiner un troisième.
Ces actes de violence ne
sont pas des accidents.
Ils ont leur origine
dans notre passé
national. » Ces actes, a
poursuivi M. Schlesinger,
ont commencé lorsque
l'homme blanc s'est mis
à assassiner les Indiens
et à faire des esclaves de
ceux qu'il considérait
comme ses inférieurs à
cause de la couleur de
leur peau. « Nous som-
mes marqués par notre
société d'un droit inné
à la violence qui apparaît
dans le rôle que nous met-
tons à poursuivre une
guerre irrationnelle au
Vietnam qui suppose une
poussée intérieure de ha-
ine et de violence », a con-
clu M. Schlesinger.

Après 24 heures d'agonie, Robert Kennedy.
succombe à ses blessures
DIMANCHE JOURNEE DE DEUIL AUX ETATS-UNIS

Robert Kennedy est mort hier matin à 1 h. 14 (heure de Los Angeles) soit 9 h. 03 GMT. Le sénateur n'avait pas repris connaissance depuis son transfert, moins de 21 heures avant à l'hôpital. Après une intervention chirurgicale qui a duré près de quatre heures, les bulletins de santé successifs publiés

dans la journée à l'hôpital du Bon Samaritain, n'indiquaient aucune amélioration. L'état du sénateur restait toujours extrêmement critique.

C'est M. Mankiewicz, son attaché de presse qui a annoncé la nouvelle de la mort de Robert Kennedy.

Quelques instants plus tard, ans et Robert Jr. 13 ans, se détails suivants : les trois aînés des dix enfants Kennedy Joseph, 16 ans, Kathleen 17 ans et Robert Jr. 13 ans, se trouvaient à l'hôpital au moment du décès, mais il n'a pu dire s'ils avaient vu leur père avant sa mort. La dépouille de M. Robert Kennedy devait être transportée dans la matinée de jeudi soit à Washington soit à New York. La Maison Blanche a été prévenue. M. Mankiewicz a encore précisé que la mort du sénateur avait été provoquée par la blessure reçue dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi et qu'il n'avait pas pu surmonter le traumatisme.

L'annonce faite par M. Mankiewicz n'a provoqué aucune surprise parmi les journalistes présents dans la salle de presse. Chacun savait en effet depuis la fin de l'après-midi, que tout espoir était perdu et que le sénateur était dans le coma. Il semble que ce soit entre 17 heures et 17 h. 30 (heure du Pacifique) que l'agonie se soit précipitée. En effet, M. Mankiewicz avait à 17 heures (locales) donné rendez-vous à la presse pour jeudi matin. Un peu plus tard, il leur avait conseillé de rester sur place dans l'attente d'une nouvelle annonce. Seul un public très clairsemé stationnait encore devant l'hôpital.

Des l'annonce du décès, le président Lyndon Johnson adressait un message de condoléances à la famille du sénateur et déclarait que dimanche prochain, sera journée de deuil national ; à ce moment, sur tous les bâtiments publics, et les navires de la marine de guerre américaine, le pavillon étoilé était mis en berne pour y rester jusqu'après les funérailles du sénateur.

Celles-ci auront lieu à New York et à Washington ; la dépouille mortelle du sénateur sera transportée dans quelques heures par avion spécial, de Los Angeles à New York, où, après avoir été exposée pendant toute la journée de vendredi, une messe sera dite samedi matin à la cathédrale St. Patrick au cœur même de la Grande Métropole. Puis, par train, le corps du sénateur sera transporté à Washington, où il sera inhumé samedi dans la journée au cimetière national d'Arlington aux côtés de la dépouille du président John Kennedy qui y repose depuis sa mort.

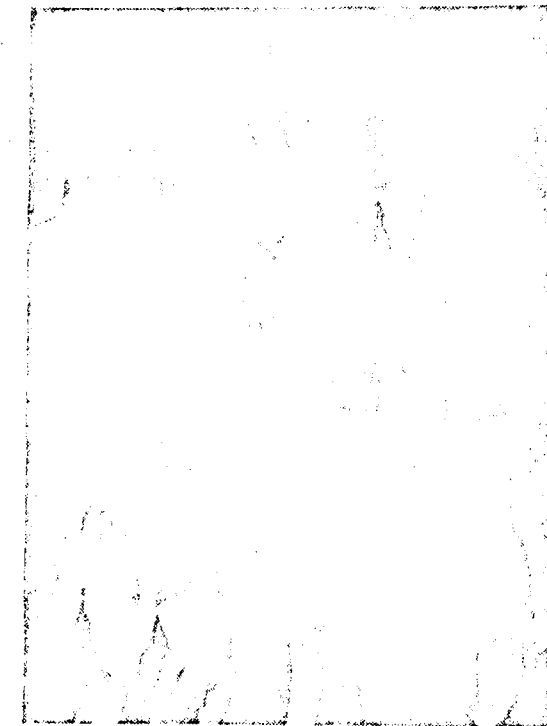
DECLARATION DU PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Peu après l'annonce de la mort du sénateur Kennedy, le président Johnson a fait la déclaration suivante :

« Nous contrainsons à cette heure une perte et une heure tragique. Le sénateur Robert F. Kennedy est mort.

« Robert Kennedy était une affirmation du pays, une affirmation de l'honnêteté intrinsèque du pays, un désir de paix, de son désir de voir les conditions de vie s'améliorer pour tous.

« Au cours de sa vie, il a connu beaucoup plus que sa part de tragédie.



Robert Kennedy au cours d'un meeting électoral à New-York avec à ses côtés sa femme Ethel.

« Il n'a pourtant jamais abandonné sa loi en l'Amérique. Il n'a jamais perdu sa confiance dans la force spirituelle des hommes et des femmes.

« Il croyait en l'aptitude des jeunes à se parfaire et au droit des plus âgés et des pauvres à vivre dans la dignité.

« Sa perte amoindrit notre vie publique.

« Mme Johnson et moi-même exprimons notre profonde sympathie à Mme Kennedy et à sa famille.

« Je viens de signer une proclamation demandant à notre nation d'observer une journée de deuil pour Robert Kennedy. »

« Notre pays est malade », a déclaré dans la soirée de mercredi le président américain en lançant un appel au pays pour qu'il « renonce à la violence ». Il a annoncé la création d'une commission qui va « commencer immédiatement un examen des causes de cette tragédie » comme de tous les actes de violence qui ensanglantent le pays depuis l'assassinat de John Kennedy. Il y a quatre ans et demi.

L'attentat commis contre le sénateur Kennedy, de même que l'assassinat du pasteur King, montre que « la violence peut abattre les meilleurs d'entre nous », a poursuivi M. Johnson.

« Nous ne pouvons tolérer la domination d'hommes violents parmi nous », a-t-il dit. « Nous ne pouvons tolérer

l'appel à la violence, quelle que soit sa cause », a-t-il ajouté, soulignant qu'un grand pays ne peut garantir la liberté des citoyens que « dans le respect de la loi ».

Le chef de l'Exécutif a demandé au Congrès d'adopter le plus rapidement possible des mesures législatives pour arrêter « le trafic insensé des armes » aux Etats-Unis. Il a enfin demandé à chaque Américain de commencer dès ce soir à faire preuve de modération et d'oublier la violence.

Le projet législatif de lutte contre la criminalité, prévoyant de sévères restrictions à la vente des armes à feu et des munitions, libre jusqu'à présent aux Etats-Unis, pourrait être débattu dès jeudi à la Chambre des représentants, estime-t-on à Washington.

En effet, la commission de procédure de la Chambre s'est prononcée, douze heures après l'attentat commis contre le sénateur Kennedy, pour l'ouverture de ce débat que le gouvernement réclamait depuis longtemps.

QUI EST SIRHAN ?

L'auteur de l'attentat contre le sénateur Robert Kennedy a été identifié mercredi au début d'après-midi. Il s'agit d'un nommé Sirhan Bakhara Sirhan, né le 16 mars 1944 à Jérusalem, demeurant depuis peu à Pasadena, en Californie, avec l'un de ses frères dit « Joé », employé dans un grand magasin de Pasadena.

Au cours d'une conférence

de presse, le maire de Los Angeles, M. Samuel Yorty, et le chef de la police de la ville, M. Thomas Reddin, ont déclaré qu'ils avaient pu remonter la filière grâce aux empreintes digitales relevées sur l'arme de l'agresseur, un pistolet de calibre 22. L'arme portait d'autres empreintes, dont celles d'un autre frère de l'agresseur, prénommé Adel.

L'identification a été confirmée par les empreintes digitales du suspect prises à l'occasion d'une demande d'emploi qu'il avait faite auprès de la direction d'un champ de courses hippiques à Hollywood. Cette demande d'emploi avait été remplie il y a quelque temps alors que Sirhan était élève au collège John Muir de Pasadena.

Il a été transféré mercredi après-midi du quartier général de la police de Los Angeles à l'infirmerie de la prison du Comté, à laquelle un porte-parole de la police.

Sirhan Sirhan, y est soigné, a-t-il précisé, pour un doigt cassé et des contusions à une jambe.

Le porte-parole a refusé de dire si le prisonnier avait été blessé au cours de la lutte qui suivit immédiatement l'attentat, avant qu'il n'ait été maîtrisé par les gardes du corps du sénateur Kennedy, ou plus tard dans les locaux de la police.

M. Thomas Reddin, chef de la police de Los Angeles, a refusé mercredi soir, au cours d'une conférence de presse, de donner des détails sur les documents découverts plus tôt dans la journée au domicile de Sirhan Sirhan.

En refusant de donner des précisions sur la nature exacte de ces documents, M. Reddin a déclaré qu'à l'heure actuelle des révélations de ce genre ne pourraient que porter préjudice au déroulement au procès de l'accusé.

M. Reddin a répété aux journalistes que rien de concret pour l'instant ne permettrait d'étayer la thèse « d'une sinistre conspiration internationale » dans cette affaire. Il a ajouté que l'accusé, autant que l'on sache, n'appartenait pas à une organisation politique extrémiste.

Le chef de la police a donné quelques détails supplémentaires sur la famille de l'accusé :

Sirhan Sirhan est arrivé en 1957 aux Etats-Unis venant de Jérusalem avec son père, sa mère, une sœur qui est décédée depuis, et quatre frères. Le père dont le prénom n'est pas connu, a quitté la famille peu après son arrivée à Pasadena et a réintégré ensuite le pays. On ne sait pas où il résiderait actuellement.

Deux frères, Adel et Nakhir, vivent encore avec leur mère à Pasadena. Les deux autres, Said Allah et Samir, ont quitté le domicile maternel et on ne sait pas où ils sont actuellement.

Seules cinq ou six personnes parmi lesquelles les deux frères, Adel et Nakhir, se sont présentées à la police pour fournir des renseignements sur l'accusé, qui observe toujours un mutisme total.

QUI A ARMÉ LA MAIN DE L'ASSASSIN ?

L'assassin du sénateur américain, Robert Kennedy, candidat aux prochaines élections présidentielles des Etats-Unis, agit-il en commettant son acte agi de son propre chef, par « idéalisme » par besoin de publicité autour de sa personne, par « fanatisme » ou bien pour le seul désir de tuer ? Quelle est la véritable personnalité de Sirhan Sirhan, quelles sont ses idées vis-à-vis d'un problème politique donné comme celui par exemple du Moyen-Orient ? Le meurtrier n'aurait-il pas été armé intentionnellement par un tiers ? Dans l'affirmative, qui avait le plus intérêt à voir disparaître Robert Kennedy et pourquoi avait-il intérêt à ce qu'il disparaisse ? Autant de mystères, autant d'hypothèses à travers lesquels il est encore bien difficile de voir clair. On annonce déjà qu'il s'agit là d'un acte profondément « isolé ». Va-t-il être dit une nouvelle fois que les raisons qui ont amené la mort de Robert Kennedy resteront dans l'ombre comme sont restées dans l'ombre celles intéressant la mort de son frère, le président John Kennedy et celle encore toute récente intéressant l'assassinat du Pasteur intégrationniste noir, Martin Luther King ?

Rien, si ce n'est le nom et l'origine de l'assassin n'a pour le moment filtré de l'enquête menée actuellement par la police autour de cette affaire. Cependant, plusieurs agences et radios étrangères certainement « bien intentionnées » ont commencé à émettre des suppositions les plus abracadabrantes quant aux raisons qui ont amené Sirhan à assassiner le sénateur Robert Kennedy. Certaines radios périphériques européennes dont l'attitude

anti-arabe au lendemain de l'agression sioniste du 5 juin n'est plus à démontrer, vont jusqu'à souligner la nationalité « arabe » de l'assassin, son « fanatisme arabe » tout cela avec bien entendu, un sous-jointif des plus aligus. En les entendant, on serait tenté de dire qu'elles ne vont pas tarder à parler d'une véritable conspiration des Arabes contre un homme politique qui n'a jamais caché toutes les sympathies qu'il éprouvait pour l'Etat sioniste installé en territoire arabe occupé au détriment de toute autre considération.

N'est-ce pas éloigner le problème de son contexte purement américain que de vouloir le rattacher intentionnellement ou non au problème du Moyen-Orient, à un moment justement où toute la Nation arabe se remémore douloureusement, la lâche agression sioniste du 5 juin 1967.

Des observateurs étrangers affirmaient déjà bien avant les résultats de l'enquête policière qu'il s'agissait là d'un crime politique.

« L'assassin, ont-ils dit, est un farouche nationaliste qui a voulu marquer par son acte le premier anniversaire du conflit arabo-sioniste de juin dernier, M. Kennedy ayant préconisé une livraison immédiate d'avions américains à l'Etat sioniste ».

Pourquoi Sirhan ne serait-il pas plutôt un tueur à gages à la solde des sionistes et qui aurait été armé par eux dans le seul but de discréditer aux yeux de l'opinion internationale les Arabes et provoquer une hystérie anti-arabe aux USA ? C'est là l'argument qui a été avancé par plusieurs observateurs arabes qui estiment que cet acte peut profiter aux sionistes. (APS)

AF EL FETH

"Des manœuvres sionistes machiavéliques"

ALGER. — Après l'attentat qui a coûté la vie au sénateur Robert Kennedy, certaines agences de presse ont avancé que son auteur est un Arabe originaire de Jérusalem.

Devant la gravité de la situation et les moyens crapuleux dont use le sionisme pour dissimuler la vérité, le bureau d'Alger du mouvement de libération nationale palestinien « El-Feth » vient de rendre public la mise au point suivante :

« L'attentat qui coûta la vie au sénateur américain Kennedy après les déclarations qu'il a faites au cours de sa campagne électorale et relatives au problème palestinien, revêt pour nous une grande signification. C'est sans vergogne que le sionisme mondial commence à étaler ses moyens de propagande pour déformer la réalité quant au problème palestinien et à la Révolution palestinienne qui commence à jouer d'un grand soutien à travers le monde.

« A l'opinion publique internationale, nous disons que toutes les hypothèses avancées sur l'identité du criminel ne sont que des manœuvres machiavéliques sionistes.

« A l'opinion publique, nous disons que le mouvement de libération nationale palestinien « El-Feth », qui entreprend aujourd'hui l'un des plus nobles et durs combats contre l'ennemi sioniste en Palestine, condamne toute personne utilisant cette arme dans un pays étranger et contre un citoyen étranger pour des divergences politiques.

« Malgré l'oppression que con-

naît le peuple palestinien de la part des sionistes, notre mouvement a maintes fois affirmé sa décision de ne jamais employer de moyens de représailles contre les populations civiles de nos ennemis. Notre combat est un combat de libération et nos coups sont spécialement portés contre les hordes militaires sionistes qui occupent notre territoire.

« UN INSTRUMENT AUX MAINS DU SIONISME »

« Il y a quelques années, ajoute la déclaration, le président John Kennedy a été assassiné. Aujourd'hui c'est le tour de son frère Robert. Est-il possible qu'un seul individu puisse remplir à lui seul une mission aussi dangereuse que criminelle ? le problème est beaucoup plus complexe qu'on le pense.

« En ce qui nous concerne, nous considérons qu'en plus des échecs retentissants qu'elle a subis à l'extérieur, notamment en Europe, en Asie, en Amérique Latine, en Afrique, la politique américaine, loin de devenir vaine, a eu les influences les plus néfastes sur la société américaine et les personnalités politiques américaines elles-mêmes.

« Pour nous, même Arabe, le criminel ne peut-être qu'un instrument aux mains du sionisme mondial, du capitalisme, de la Central Intelligence Agency pour la concrétisation des plus abjectes aspirations politiques.



Pol 643/Kennedy, Robert F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 191

PAGE 01 WELLIN 02031 070503Z

22
ACTION EA 15

INFO SSO 00, SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, 1067

R 070440Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1717

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2031

SUBJECT: DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY

PRIME MINISTER HOLYOAKE MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO PRESS
ON LEARNING OF DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY:

"I AM SURE ALL NEW ZEALANDERS WILL HAVE FELT AN IMMEDIATE
SENSE OF GRIEF AT THE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S
DEATH. ONCE AGAIN A GREAT AMERICAN PUBLIC FIGURE HAS BEEN CUT DOWN AS
HE CARRIED OUT THE TASKS OF OPEN CONTEST AND DEBATE WHICH ARE PART
OF THE TRUE DEMOCRATIC TRADITION. HIS PASSING IS MORE POIGNANT
BECAUSE IT ECHOES THE STARK EVENTS OF DALLAS AND REMINDS US OF
THE GREAT BURDEN OF SACRIFICE ALREADY BORNE BY THE KENNEDY
FAMILY. FOR THE UNITED STATES TO LOSE ITS GIFTED MEN IN THIS
WAY IS A SAD DISTORTION OF THE FREEDOMS WHICH THEY IN TURN
HAVE FOUGHT TO PRESERVE. THE IDEALS OF PUBLIC SERVICE WHICH
SENATOR KENNEDY STROVE TO FULFIL ARE THOSE WHICH WE IN
NEW ZEALAND SHARE AND ADMIRE. FOR THIS REASON, AMERICA'S SORROW
IS OUR SORROW, AND OUR THOUGHTS GO OUT TO THE SENATOR'S CLOSE FAMILY."
HENNING

*Wellington 2031
6/7/68*

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PIL 6 LIS/KENNEDY, ROBERT
 Department of State
TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 437

PAGE 01 TOKYO 09030 070745Z

14
 ACTION CPR 02

INFO EA 10, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, CIAE 00, INR 07,

NSAE 00, RSR 01, SY 03, SSD 00, /072 W

P 070710Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 795

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 9030

SUBJ: KENNEDY FUNERAL - JAPANESE PARTICIPATION

REF: DEPTTEL 1787283#

1. FONOFF (NORTH AMERICA SECTION) INFORMS EMBASSY THE
 JAPANESE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AT FUNERAL OF SENATOR

ROBERT F. KENNEDY IN NEW YORK WILL BE AMB. SHIMODA AND
 CONUL GENERAL AT NEW YORK. HOWEVER, DIET MEMBER EIICHI
 NAKAO AND MR TOKUSABURO KOSAKA ALSO PLANNING GO TO US IN
 HOPES OF BEING ABLE ATTEND FUNERAL AS WELL AS INTERMENT AT
 ARLINGTON IN CAPACITY REPRESENTATIVES "ROBERT KENNEDY
 COMMITTEE," OF WHICH KOSAKA IS CHAIRMAN. EMBASSY AND FONOFF
 HAVE CAREFULLY INFORMED NAKAO OF INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL CON-
 CERNING LIMITATION OF ATTENDANCE FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES AT
 CATHEDRAL. FONOFF INDICATED JAPANESE EMBASSY WASHINGTON
 BEING INSTRUCTED APPROACH DEPT IN HOPES SECURING SPECIAL
 CONSIDERATION, AND ACKNOWLEDGED NAKAO AT LEAST BEING GIVEN
 "QUASI-OFFICIAL" REPRESENTATIVE STATUS.

2. NAKAO TOLD EMBASSY HE EXPECTS BE DESIGNATED TO PRESENT
 HIGHEST JAPANESE GOVERNMENT DECORATION GIVEN NON-JAPANESE TO
 LATE SENATOR KENNEDY. EMBASSY RECOMMENDED HE HAVE JAPANESE
 EMBASSY GET IN TOUCH WITH DEPT TO ASCERTAIN KENNEDY FAMILY
 VIEWS. NORTH AMERICAN SECTION AGREED TO THIS PROCEDURE.

3. KOSAKA AND NAKAO WERE AMONG THOSE INSTRUMENTAL IN MAKING

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 09030 070745Z

ARRANGEMENTS FOR AND HOSTING JAPAN VISITS OF LATE SENATOR AND MRS. KENNEDY IN 1961 AND 1964 AND HAVE BEEN ACTIVE SINCE THEN IN "KENNEDY COMMITTEE" AND ITS OFFSHOOT JAPAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. BOTH ORGANIZATIONS ARE ACTIVE ON BEHALF OF US-JAPAN RELATIONS. KOSAKA IS PRESIDENT OF LARGE CHEMICAL COMPANY AND BROTHER OF FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER. NAKAO IS YOUNG CONSERVATIVE MEMBER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ELECTED IN 1967.

4. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN ANY REQUEST FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION BUT WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER CAN BE DONE TO ASSIST WITHIN APPROPRIATE LIMITS AND TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO KOSAKA AND NAKAO.

OSBORN

NOTE: # AS RECEIVED.

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

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AIRGRAM

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A-70

NO.

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TO : Department of State
INFO : CARACAS

FROM : Amconsul MARACAIBO

SUBJECT : Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Kennedy

REF :

DATE: June 7, 1968

Maracaibo was deeply shocked and saddened by first the news of the shooting and then on June 6 the tragic death of the Senator. Expressions of grief over his loss and of condolence for his family came into the consulate and Casa Americana, the USIS branch post, by telephone, telegram, written notes and personal visits from Maracaibo residents. The murder of Senator Kennedy, from this testimony, seemed to touch everyone -- people in public life, businessmen and labor leaders, educators and students, the military, and plain citizens.

Venezuelans accustomed to thinking of our country as the model of respect for law and an ordered, secure way of life cannot understand what to many has been a rapid deterioration of America's social fabric. American residents here are similarly baffled and worried. The tragedy of Senator Kennedy, coming two months after the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King and a highly-publicized protest movement in the United States, has shaken many to the core. On everyone's mind, said a lady calling to express her ~~xxx~~ regrets who spoke the mind of many, "is the horror of seeing what is happening to a wonderful country."

King
KING

cc: Amembassy CARACAS (DCM, USIS); Department (ARA/LA/NC/V)

FORM
4-62 DS-323

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Drafted by:

JFKing;fm

Contents and Classification Approved by:

PO:JFKing *King*

Clearances:

(21)



POL 6 US / Kennedy
Robert F. J.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

27

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367

PAGE 21 BONN 13018 071728Z

45
ACTION CPR 02

INFO EUR 15,SSO 00,NSCE 00,CCO 00,USIE 00,H 02,CO 04,SS 20,NSC 10,

P 04,CIAE 00,INR 07,NSAE 00,RSC 01,RSR 01,1066 W

O 071700Z JUN 68 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8572
INFO USMISSION BERLIN IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 13018

SUBJECT: FRG REPRESENTATION FOR KENNEDY FUNERAL

REF: BONN 12979

1. MODIFYING THE REFERENCED TELEGRAM, FOREIGN OFFICE PROTOCOL CHIEF SCHWARTZMAN CALLED US TO SAY THAT AMBASSADOR KNAPPSTEIN IS THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE AT THE FUNERAL SERVICES. SENATOR SPANGENBURG IS REPRESENTING THE BERLIN SENATE AND ALSO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR KNAPPSTEIN IS THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

LODGE

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Department of State

POL 6 US / Kennedy
Robert F.
TELEGRAM
28

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 753

PAGE 01 BONN 12979 071117Z

19
ACTION CPR 02

INFO EUR 15, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, H 02, SY 03, SSO 00, NSCE 00,

USIE 00, CCO 00, RSR 01, /058 W

O 071110Z JUN 68 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8561

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 12979

SUBJ: FRG REPRESENTATION FOR KENNEDY FUNERAL

REF: STATE 178273

THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE FRG IS DESIGNATING DIETRICH SPANGENBERG, BERLIN'S SENATOR FOR FEDERAL AFFAIRS, AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE KENNEDY FUNERAL. APANGENBERG IS A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF FOREIGN MINISTER BRANDT AND GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT THE FRG MAY DESIGNATE A SECOND REPRESENTATIVE AS WELL. LODGE

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert 43

UNCLASSIFIED 694

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 02578 071810Z

91
ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /082 W

R 071715Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2712

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 2578

1. THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF ROBERT KENNEDY HAS SHOCKED HONDURAS AND DOMINATED ITS NEWS MEDIA. MANY COMMENTATORS SAY HIS DEATH INDICATES THAT SOMETHING IS SERIOUSLY WRONG WITH AMERICA AND SPECULATE THAT THE SHOOTING IS THE RESULT OF A RIGHTIST CONSPIRACY.

2. EL CRONISTA WHICH CALLED KENNEDY THE "MOST RECENT HOPE OF LATIN AMERICA" SAW HIM AS "THE VICTIM OF REACTIONARY PLOTTERS, THE KLU KLUX KLAN, AND THE COSA NOSTRA," AND SAID "THE BULLET WHICH KILLED ROBERT KENNEDY WAS DIRECTED INTELLECTUALLY BY THE SAME DIABOLICAL MINDS WHICH KILLED JOHN KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING."

3. LIBERAL LA PRENSA OF SAN PEDRO SULA SAID THE MURDERS OF BOTH KENNEDYS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING WERE "ORGANIZED BY THOSE WHO DO NOT WANT AMERICAN SOCIETY RADICALLY CHANGED" BUT PERDICTED THAT THESE CRIMES "CANNOT PREVENT THIS CHANGE TO A NEW AND BETTER SOCIETY."

4. EL PUEBLO, LIBERAL PARTY ORGAN, WHICH THREE WEEKS AGO HAD EDITORIALY CALLED ROBERT KENNEDY "THE BEST HOPE OF THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES OF LATIN AMERICA" SAID THER IS NO DOUBT THAT HE WAS KILLED BECAUSE HE FAVORED "CLOSING THE GAP WHICH SEPARATES THE NEGROES FROM WHITE, RICH FROM POOR, ONE GENERATION FROM ANOTHER." IT LINKED THE MURDERS OF THE KENNEDYS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING AS PART OF A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE FORCES OF GOOD AND EVIL IN THE U.S.

5. THE GOVERNMENT'S DIARIO DEL NORTE, LAMENTED KENNEDY'S SHOOTING AND SAID THE US IS UNDERGOING AN "ACUTE INTERNAL

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*tegucigalpa 25-78
4/7/68*

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 TEGUCI 02578 071810Z

CRISIS" AND "MANIFESTING SIGNS OF SOCIAL DISINTEGRATION" WITH AN "INCREASE IN ANARCHY, RACIAL HATRED AND CRIME OF ALL KINDS."

6. CONSERVATIVE EL DIA CALLED THE LOSS OF THE "HEIR AND APOSTLE OF THE NEW FRONTIER" IRREPARABLE.

7. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NUMEROUS EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY INCLUDING ONE FROM PRESIDENT LOPEZ, TEXT OF WHICH TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY. PLEASE PASS TO WIDOW OF SENATOR KENNEDY AND KENNEDY FAMILY.

WILKOWSKI

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59 POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00927 072201Z

88
ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04
RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,NIC 01,AID 28,RSR 01,III W

R 072139Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1595

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 927

REF: PORT AU PRINCE 919

1. CONTINUING EDITORIAL REACTION ON SENATOR KENNEDY MIXED.
LE MATIN PRAISED HIM AS ANOTHER MARTYR TO CAUSE OF PROGRESSIVE
POLICIES WHICH HAVE CREATED HOPE FOR ALL WHO SUFFER AND
ASPIRE TO WELL-BEING. PARTICULAR SORROW EXPRESSED THAT
CRIME COMMITTED BY NON-AMERICAN ON U S SOIL AGAINST A PEOPLE
"WE LOVE FOR NUMEROUS NOBLE ACTS AND GENEROSITIES TOWARD
OTHER COUNTRIES DURING THEIR UNHAPPY DAYS."

2. LE NOUVEAU MONDE CHARACTERIZED KENNEDY AS AMBITIOUS,
RUTHLESS, CYNICAL AND DANGEROUS FOR AMERICAN NATION. EDITORIAL
BLAMED AMERICAN CIVILIZATION FOR DELUDING KENNEDY INTO
BELIEVING HIS FORTUNE MADE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE INCLUDING
"SECOND PURCHASE OF WHITE HOUSE."

3. ONLY OFFICIAL CONDOLENCE THUS FAR IS TELEGRAM FROM
PRESIDENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO PRESIDENT U S SENATE, TEXT
OF WHICH PUBLISHED NOUVEAU MONDE TODAY. AFTER EXPRESSING
"INDIGNATION AT THIS CRIME," TELEGRAM ADDS AMBIGUOUSLY THAT
"THESE ACTS OF VIOLENCE FREELY PREACHED AND PRACTISED HAVE
AN ELOQUENCE IN AN ADVANCED DEMOCRACY WHICH RELIEVES ONE OF
NEED OF ANY COMMENTARY." EXEMPT ROSS

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PORT AU PRINCE

6-768

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AIRGRAM⁴⁹

 POL 6 US/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

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A-103

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NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : OTTAWA

FROM : Amconsul HALIFAX

DATE: June 7, 1968

SUBJECT : Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island Reaction to Senator Kennedy's Death

REF :

Reaction in this consular district to the murder of Senator Robert F. Kennedy was almost completely one of horror, sorrow and disbelief. Maritimers have close ties with New England and there has always been a particular interest in the Kennedy family in this district. There were many expressions of Canadian sympathy to American citizens.

There have been, and will be, many church services for Senator Kennedy. Among those who signed the Consulate General's condolence book were the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia (the ranking official of the province), provincial cabinet members, members of the provincial legislative assembly and the recently dissolved Federal parliament and representatives of all walks of life. Impressively, many teenagers came in to sign the book.

There was concern about violence in American life. "What's gone wrong there in the States?" said a garage attendant to the Reporting Officer.

The Halifax Chronicle-Herald accurately expressed sentiment in the district when it said, "the facts of American life, the tradition of violence, the ease with which anyone, upright citizen and paranoid madman, can possess firearms and use them with relative impunity, and the continuing myth that every American has the right to 'bear arms', make political and public service more physically hazardous in the United States than in most other civilized countries . . . Americans can surely best assuage their anger at this dreadful deed by determining to remove the cancer of violence that besets their society. As a start, they should insist on an effective cure on the present free for all sale of firearms." Several representative clippings from area papers are attached in one original and four thermofaxed copies for the Department and one thermofax for the Embassy.

Enclosures as stated

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FORM 4-62 19-323

Drafted by:

ALPeaslee:he

Contents and Classification Approved by:

ALPeaslee

Clearances:

EUR/CAN Noted J.C. Chescey 6/12/68 (file)

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BUREAU
OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
COMMUNICATION CENTER

1969 JUN 12 AM 10 49

DEPARTMENT OF STATE



The Chronicle-Herald stands for Maritime Progress and Development and is dedicated to the service of the people that no good cause shall lack a champion and that wrong shall not thrive unopposed.

4 THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968

Act Of Violence

The shadow and the stain of Dallas and Memphis have fallen on Los Angeles, and indeed on to the whole fabric of American society.

The horrified disbelief that was the first reaction, in Canada and throughout the world, to the news that Senator Robert Kennedy had been shot and critically wounded almost at the moment of his victory in the California primary election, was accentuated by the ordinary person's refusal to conceive that Robert Kennedy could meet the same tragic death as that of his distinguished brother, and in such horribly similar circumstances.

Yet this monstrous, mindless act is in keeping with an atmosphere of growing violence, not only in the United States, but in many other countries. Unhappily, in the United States (unlike, for example, France, where the recent turmoil in the streets resulted in remarkably few fatal casualties) violence, whether on a massive scale or directed at individuals, so often involves firearms, and the rule of the bullet.

Senator Kennedy's shooting occurred just two months after the Rev. Martin Luther King had been gunned down on his motel verandah at Memphis, an act which resulted in fearful riots, that may well have been a mere curtain raiser for this summer's anticipated racial strife in American cities.

Must all leaders of political thought in the United States, all men of courage and ideas, of integrity and a desire to better the lot of their fellow men, risk their lives when they become public figures?

It may be that the man who shot Robert Kennedy, whoever he was, was an evil crank rather than a political conspirator, just as Lee Harvey Oswald and the murderer of Martin Luther King may have been cranks.

But the facts of American life, the tradition of violence, the ease with which anyone, upright citizen and paranoid madman, can possess firearms and use them with comparative impunity, and the continuing myth that every American has the right to "bear arms", make political and public service more physically hazardous in the United States than in most other civilized countries.

The effect of this event on American politics, particularly on this year's presidential election, can only be guessed at, for the moment.

Americans can surely best assuage their anger at this dreadful deed by determining to remove the cancer of violence that besets their society. As a start, they should insist on an effective cure on the present free for all sale of firearms.

THE CHRONICLE-HERALD



The Chronicle-Herald stands for Maritime Progress and Development and is dedicated to the service of the people that no good cause shall lack a champion and that wrong shall not thrive unopposed.

4

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1968

No More Martyrs

Like his elder brother, the late President John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy was cut down in his prime, as a man, a political leader and a personality whose political ideals and reforming zeal had given hope to millions of ordinary people, in his own country and beyond.

Senator Robert Kennedy was a controversial figure at the time of his murder. Although he had just won a victory over his principal Democratic opponent in the race for the presidency in the California Democratic primary, his attainment of that office, even his selection as Democratic presidential candidate at the Chicago convention, would have been achieved, if at all, only after a strenuous and probably rough campaign within the party and the nation.

The political, as distinct from personal tragedy, of President Kennedy was that his death left the promise and hope he personified unfulfilled. Robert Kennedy never reached the pinnacle of power attained by his brother, although he seemed to have a fair chance of doing so. But, as a campaigning Kennedy, as a hard hitting politician who had long identified himself with the civil rights movement and with the radical wing of the Democratic party, as a young man with a charismatic appeal to young people impatient for reform, his career held rich promise and potential.

Whether ~~he~~ would have made a great president, or even a good one, and whether he would have worn with comfort the mantle donned so briefly by his brother, are now matters for academic speculation. We shall never know.

What is now important is for the people of the United States, of all races and in all strata of society, to determine that there shall be no more martyrs, no more politicians and no more spiritual leaders gunned down because their words happen to annoy evil and fanatical extremists.

Surely, violence has ~~gone~~ far enough.



Halifax Mail Star 6/7/68

FINAL COMMENT — A condolence book for Senator Kennedy was opened for the public this morning at the U.S. Consul General's office in the Bank of Nova Scotia Building. Alexander Peaslee, right, U.S. Consul General in Halifax, watches Dr. T. M. Sieniewicz become the first Haligonian to sign the book. The book will be open until 5 p.m. today and until noon tomorrow.

52

POL 6 25 / Kennedy,

Robert F.

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Joung 70. 178349

Origin

ACTION: CHIEFS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS URGENT
(LIST OF CHANCERIES ATTACHED)

Info:

CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WE HAVE RECEIVED A NUMBER OF INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF THE
DIPLOMATIC CORPS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING ~~THE REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LATE~~
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.
~~SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY~~ MEMBERS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY HAVE
ADVISED US THAT THEY WILL RESERVE ONE (1) OR TWO (2) SEATS
FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH COUNTRY WHICH MAY CARE TO/ATTEND.
TO AND FROM NEW YORK
FOR THIS PURPOSE, AIR TRANSPORTATION/WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE
ATTENDING, DEPARTING ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE AT 7:30 A.M. ON
SATURDAY, JUNE 8, ~~AND PROCEED TO NEW YORK FOR THOSE REPRESENTATIVES~~
~~WHO WISH TO ATTEND THE REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LATE SENATOR KENNEDY~~
~~AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.~~ BUSES WILL MEET THE PLANE UPON
ARRIVAL AT JOHN F. KENNEDY AIRPORT TO TRANSPORT THE PASSENGERS
TO AND FROM THE CATHEDRAL. FURTHERMORE, ~~REPRESENTATIVES~~
ACCEPTING THIS INVITATION SHOULD BE AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE
(VIP LOUNGE) NOT REPEAT NOT LATER THAN 7:00 A.M. UNFORTUNATELY,
DUE TO LACK OF SPACE, WIVES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS INVITATION.

Drafted by: S/CPR: GAbell:RSancho-Bonet

Tel. Ext. 6443

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Angier Biddle Duke for R.S.B.
Chief of Protocol

Clearances:

S/S-BHRead

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Classification

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PLEASE BRING THIS TELEGRAM TO PRESENT AS YOUR ADMITTANCE
AUTHORIZATION. SPACE IN THE CATHEDRAL WILL BE SEVERELY LIMITED
AND IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO ASSURE ATTENDANCE
OF ^{ADDITIONAL} ~~ADDITIONAL~~ REPRESENTATIVES.

BURIAL AT ARLINGTON CEMETERY WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND A LIMITED SECTION WILL BE RESERVED FOR REPRESENTIVES OF THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES. THOSE ATTENDING THE BURIAL AT ARLINGTON SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE DIPLOMATIC ENTRANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT

OF STATE NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M. TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED
TO AND FROM THE CEMETERY. THE FUNERAL SERVICES AND BURIAL
PLEASE ADVISE US OF THOSE WHO WILL BE ATTENDING AS YOUR
REPRESENTATIVES. TELEPHONE NUMBER DU 3-3452, or DU 3-5633.

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Classification

37.



POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State

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UNCLASSIFIED 905

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54
ACTION NEA 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /069 W

P 071143Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC 3995

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 4024/1 SECTION ONE OF TWO

USIAC

JOINT USIS/EMBASSY

FOR: IOP/GM, IPS, IBS

ISRAELI PRESS REVIEW, JUNE 7

1. VOLUMINOUS KENNEDY COVERAGE IN ALL PAPERS. WITH TWO EXCEPTIONS, ENTIRE MORING PRESS EDITORIALIZES.

2. HAARETZ (INDEPENDENTIC) QUOTE SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN IS JERUSALEM-BORN ARAB, BUT SINCE HE SPENT ABOUT HALF HIS LIFE AND ACQUIRED HIS EDUCATION IN US, HE HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE. AT SAME TIME IT CLEAR HE TOOK ACTION AGAINST KENNEDY AS ARAB NATIONALIST; AND WHILE DIPLOMATS FROM ARAB STATES ARE AVOIDING ANY JUSTIFICATION OF MURDER, ALREADY THERE HAS BEEN ARAB PROPAGANDIST WHO ATTEMPTED, WHILE PAYING LIP SERVICE TO CONDEMNATION OF CRIME...EXPLOIT ASSAULT FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. FROM WHAT IS TO BE LEARNED FROM HIS PERSONAL PARTICULARS, SIRHAN IS NEITHER REFUGEE NOR EXILE; HE IS SON OF IMMIGRANT FAMILY SIMILAR TO THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES-ARAB AND OTHER-WHO IMMIGRATED TO US... DID SIRHAN ACT AS INDIVIDUAL OR ON BEHALF OF ORGANIZATION? AS YET THERE IS NO ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION AND MATTER WILL HAVE TO BE EXAMINED FROM ALL POSSIBLE ANGLES... IF IT TRANSPIRES, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS A

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LONE OPERATOR WITHOUT ORGANIZED BACKING, THIS MUST NOT BE TAKEN ANY LESS SERIOUSLY. TO CONTRARY: LONE ASSAILANT MAY BE MORE DANGEROUS THAN ONE WHO ACTS AS MEMBER OR ORGANIZATION OR GROUP. SIRHAN'S EXAMPLE MAY INCITE OTHERS- NOT NECESSARILY ARABS, BUT ALSO ARABS, AND NOT ONLY IN UNITED STATES. CRIMINOLOGY EXPERTS ALWAYS CLAIM THAT EVERY CRIME THAT SUCCEEDS AROUSES OTHERS TO FOLLOW SUIT. MOREOVER, POLITICAL MURDER HAS ALWAYS BEEN ACCEPTED IN ARAB WORLD AND THERE IS MUCH EVIDENCE OF THIS IN ARAB COUNTRIES BORDERING ON ISRAEL. US MAY NOT BE ONLY ONE TO SERVE AS ARENA FOR ADDITIONAL BLOODTHIRSTY PEOPLE: HERE, TOO, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REEXAMINE AND IMPROVE SECURITY MEANS INTENDED PROTECT HEADS OF OUR STATE. UNQUOTE

3. DAVAR(HISTADRUT-LABOR FEDERATION): QUOTE IDENTITY OF MURDERER GIVES RISE TO VARIOUS CONJECTURES CONCERNING HIS MOTIVES. US AUTHORITIES MUST CERTAINLY HAVE LEARNED LESSON FROM FAULTS AND INEFFICIENCIES COMMITTED AT LEAST DURING FIRST STAGES OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MURDER INVESTIGATION... IT IS TO BE EXPECTED THAT THIS TIME ALL MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN AND ALL POSSIBILITIES INVESTIGATED SO AS NOT LEAVE ASSUMPTIONS AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION ON SUCH IMPORTANT ISSUE. UNQUOTE

4. AL HAMISHMAR(MAPAM-LEFTWING SOCIALIST): QUOTE HE (SIRHAN) WAS BROUGHT TO US AS YOUTH AND THEREFORE SPENT HIS FORMATIVE YEARS AWAY FROM HIS NATIVE CITY. FROM STANDPOINT OF WOUNDED ARAB INNERQUOTE PATRIOTISM INNER UNQUOTE H IS NOT, THEREFORE, MOST NATURAL CANDIDATE FOR ACT OF INDIVIDUAL TERRORISM. AS FOR VICTIM, SENATOR KENNEDY, -FOR ALL HIS DECLARED AFFECTION FOR ISRAEL DURING HIS ELECTIONS CAMPAIGN-WAS NOT IDEAL MANIFESTATION OF ARDENT BELIEF IN OUR CAUSE. CONSEQUENTLY ONE CANNOT AVOID CONCLUSION THAT ISRAELI-ARAB ASPECT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED ARTIFICIALLY AND FOR PURPOSES OF PROVOCATION, INTO THIS HORRIFYING AND BASE MURDER. UNQUOTE

5. HAMODIA (WORLD AGUDAT YISRAEL-RELIGIOUS): QUOTE FACT THAT ARAB LEAGUE'S PROFESSIONAL AGITATOR DR. MAHDI ALLOWED HIMSELF TO USE FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN ORDER TO

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FIND INNER QUOTE JUSTIFICATION INNOR UNQUOTE FOR ACT OF MURDER WHO INNER QUOTE BOILED WITH ANGER INNER UNQUOTE UPON HEARING SENATOR KENNEDY'S PRO-ISRAELI STATEMENTS, SHOULD ALERT AMERICAN AUTHORITIES TO DANGEROUS PRESENCE OF VIOLENT GROUP WHICH ENJOYS FULL FREEDOM OF ACTION AND SOWS FEAR IN HEARTS OF ANY WHO DARE DISOBEY THEM. AS LONG AS THIS ACTIVITY DID NOT BEAR SUCH TRAGIC FRUITS, US AUTHORITIES ALLOWED THEMSELVES TO SUFFER ACTIVITIES OF THIS TERRORIST GROUP. BUT NOW THAT THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE RESULTED IN A TERRIBLE MURDER, AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION SHOULD NO LONGER TOLERATE THEM. ISRAEL SHOULD NOT BE EAGER TO REAP POLITICAL BENEFITS FROM THIS ACT. ISRAEL'S ENEMIES, WHO ARE TO BE FOUND EVERYWHERE, MAY ALSO TRY USE INCIDENT IN ORDER TO MAKE POINT THAT AMERICAN LEADERS SHOULD NOT DEMONSTRATE PRO-ISRAELI TENDENCIES AND THAT MIDDLE EASTERN DISPUTE IS DISRUPTING LIFE OF US. BUT, FOR MOST PART, THERE IS ROOM FOR ASSUMPTION THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION WILL NOW UNDERSTAND MUCH BETTER THE TRAGIC REALITY IN WHICH WE LIVE IN OUR REGION. UNQUOTE

6. SHEARIM (POALEI AGUDAT YISRAEL-RELIGIOUS, LABOR): QUOTE IT WILL BE CRIME IF, EVEN NOW, WORLD CONTINUES IGNORE NEST OF HATRED WHICH EXISTS IN MIDDLE EAST. UNTIL NOW WORLD ACCEPTED THIS SITUATION AND AT TIMES EVEN ENCOURAGED IT THROUGH PROPAGANDA. IT IS DOUBTFUL WHETHER THERE IS ANOTHER REGION IN WORLD. GILDNER

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RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /069 W
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P 07143Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC 3996

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 TEL AVIV 4024/2

USIAC

WHERE RULERS BASE THEIR COUNTRIES' EXISTENCE ON SUCH HATRED FOR NEIGHBORING STATE, BOYCOTT ANYONE WHO DOES NOT ACCEPT THEIR VIEWS AND OPENLY INSTIGATE A WAR OF TOTAL ANNIHILATION AND DESTRUCTION. ROBERT KENNEDY WHO FELL VICTIM TO THIS TERRIBLE INSTIGATION AFTER HE HAD SPOKEN WORDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, RECOGNIZED URGENT NEED TO END MIDDLE EASTERN DISPUTE. BUT IT DOUBTFUL WHETHER HE REALIZED JUST HOW DEEP HATRED WAS, AND THIS NOT ONLY IN MIDDLE EAST. UNQUOTE

7. HAYOM (GAHAL - RIGHTWING ALIGNMENT): QUOTE THIS PHENOMENON IS PART OF COMPLEX OF INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF AMERICAN PLURALISTIC SOCIETY, WHICH HAS BEEN TOLERATING ON ITS FRINGES DOUBTFUL ELEMENTS FOR WHOM VIOLENCE IS EXCLUSIVE MEANS OF ACHIEVING AIMS.

8. MURDER OF ROBERT KENNEDY, IN ADDITION TO ALL ITS TRAGIC AND SHOCKING SIDELIGHTS, IS SOMEHOW EXCEPTION IN SUM TOTAL OF POLITICAL MURDERS OF STATESMEN AND PUBLIC FIGURES IN AMERICA. IN THIS INSTANCE, MURDERER IS SOMEONE WHO IMMIGRATED ONLY A FEW YEARS AGO TO THE U.S., A YOUNG JORDANIAN, AND EXTREME NATIONALIST, WHO SHOT VICTIM OUT OF POLITICAL MOTIVATIONS WHICH HE WANTED CARRY OUT THROUGH PERSONAL TERROR. THUS, WHETHER WE WANT IT

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OR WHETHER IT UNDESIRABLE TO SOMEONE, ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT - AND STAND OF U.S. AND ITS RELATION TO THAT CONFLICT - ENTERS GRUESOME PICTURE OF DRAMATIC EVENT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN LOS ANGELES...IT MOST PROBABLE THAT EVERYBODY REGARDS WITH GREAT DEAL OF DOUBT AND RESERVATION CONTENTIONS OF ARAB DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON, THAT THERE IS NO CONNECTION BETWEEN MURDER OF ROBERT KENNEDY AND HIS PRO-ISRAELI DECLARATIONS, WHICH HE HAD VOICED IN RECENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN APPEARANCES BEFORE JEWISH AUDIENCES IN SAN FRANCISCO...VERY FACT THAT ARAB COUNTRIES REJECT WITH FIRM DETERMINATION EVERY APPEAL AND WILLINGNESS ON PART OF ISRAEL FOR DIRECT PEACE TALKS AND CONTINUE PREACH SOLUTION OF CONFLICT BY FORCE OF ARMS, BY RENEWAL OF WAR, IS ENCOURAGEMENT TO VIOLENCE IN EVERY FORM AND MANNER. WAR-CRIES ARE DAILY ROUTINE AND CENTRAL THEME OF PROPAGANDA ORGANS OF ARAB COUNTRIES. NO WONDER IT WAS REVEALED THAT MURDERER IN CALIFORNIA COMMITTED HIS CRIME OUT OF CONVICTION THAT IN THAT WAY HE IS CONTRIBUTING HIS INNER QUOTE SHARE INNER UNQUOTE TO JIHAD (ARAB HOLY WAR). UNQUOTE

9. IN SIGNED ARTICLE, LAMERHAV (ISRAEL LABOR PARTY) WRITES: QUOTE JORDAN CLAIMS THAT HERE ARE NO GROUNDS TO BLAME AN ARAB MAJORITY, OR (HASHEMITE) KINGDOM OR ENTIRE ARAB NATION FOR MURDEROUS CRIME. THAT CONTENTION MUST BE RESPECTED. WE MAY ASSUME THAT MANY AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS FELT PROFOUND REGRET AND SHOCK WHEN THEY LEARNED OF IDENTITY OF MURDERER. NO, THERE IS NO REASON TO BLAME ARAB LEADERS FOR THAT MURDER WHICH MUST HAVE FILLED THEM WITH ANXIETY, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF ITS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. HOWEVER, IF ANYONE ACCUSED THEM INNER QUOTE YOU ARE THE MURDERERS! INNER UNQUOTE HE WOULD NOT BE FAR FROM THE TRUTH, BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN BLOWING UP ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT TO IRRATIONAL DIMENSIONS. BECAUSE THEY HAVE TURNED THIS REGION, BY THEIR FOUL SPEECHES AND IMAGINATION, INTO A HELL OF BLOOD, FIRE AND TEARS; BECAUSE THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GRUESOME SLAUGHTER WHICH CONTINUES AND IS GOING TO CONTINUE IN THEIR SPEECHES AND IN THEIR DEEDS. AGAINST THIS TERRIFYING BACKGROUND

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ROBERT KENNEDY'S DEATH BECOMES NATURAL PHENOMENON, A
CONCLUSION WHICH HAS BEEN DRAWN, AS PART OF THE
INNER QUOTE GAME INNER UNQUOTE. UNQUOTE. GILDNER

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ROBERT F.

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Original to be Filed in _____ Decentralized Files.

AIR POUCH

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A-919

HANDLING INDICATOR

NO.

TO : Department of State

JUN 10 3 45 PM 1968

FROM : AmEmbassy, Caracas

DATE: June 7, 1968

SUBJECT : Venezuelan Presidential Candidates and the U.S. --
Insights From Reactions to Senator Kennedy's Assassination

REF : --

For some time the Embassy has been studying the principal presidential aspirants, their methods of operation, types of people around them, etc., in view of the fact that that one of them will become president in 1969. In the last six months, Luis Beltran Prieto, Rafael Caldera and Gonzalo Barrios emerged as strong candidates. Barring unforeseen ganging up by the other parties behind one candidate, Prieto and Caldera stand at least an even chance at this point to become Venezuela's next president. Barrios' chances are more remote, but no one here is willing to count him out yet.

In view of the foregoing, their personalities have become a subject of great importance. The tragic death of Senator Robert Kennedy on June 5 provided a unique opportunity for insights into their emotional stability and basic attitudes toward the United States. On both counts these insights have provided fair warning that while Prieto and Caldera would be strong capable leaders, there are aspects of their personalities which would prove difficult for the U.S. This is only slightly less true of Barrios.

Prieto and the U.S.

When the shocking news of the assassination of Senator Kennedy hit Venezuela, the natural reaction here, as in many countries, was dramatic. Political leaders immediately issued emotional statements, most of which implied or specified a pattern and link between the assassination of President Kennedy, Dr. Martin

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10-64 DS-323Drafted by:
POL:KB Jenkins/jac

Drafting Date:

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Contents and Classification Approved by:

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Clearances:

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Luther King, and Senator Kennedy. There was prominent criticism of lawlessness and barbaric practices of political assassinations in the United States, although this was more of a remorseful rather than a vitriolic observation. Prieto, in his initial statement, attributed this deplorable act of violence to the aggressive policies of the U.S. He referred critically to our involvement in Viet Nam and suggested that the black forces of reaction feared Kennedy's reform philosophy. Finally, he expressed the hope that the barbaric practice of political assassinations would not spread to Venezuela.

The following morning, Dr. Prieto phoned the Embassy and spoke with the Minister-Counselor at some length in highly emotional terms. He concluded by requesting that we visit him at his home. The Minister and the reporting officer drove out to Prieto's home in the southeast corner of Caracas (Prados del Este) and had an emotional hour-long conversation with him. Prieto was deeply upset and was not always coherent in the points he made. He agreed that no police force in the world can stop assassinations. He deplored the fact that a President so powerful that he can bomb North Viet Nam at will, is unable to protect an individual politician and he expressed concern for the whole western world that its leading power had reached such a state.

Prieto then lapsed into a somewhat more reflective mood recalling his own personal experiences with the United States. On the positive side, Prieto recalled that he spent two years in the U.S. in 1949 through 1951 when he was in political exile. He was penniless and also had a serious medical crisis with his young son. Prieto obviously was deeply moved by the fact that his son was given the most specialized medical attention, received a highly sensitive operation (which was successful) and then the doctor deferred to his exile status and economic circumstances, and asked only that he pay what he could afford. Prieto pointed out that he still corresponds with the doctor, Dr. Thomas Williams of the George Washington University Hospital, apparently a neurosurgeon. Prieto also recalled how his little boy was accepted into the neighborhood games by American children even though the children could not communicate because of the language barrier.

On the negative side of the ledger, Prieto recalled the fact that the American reputation in Venezuela was initiated by the rowdies who arrived here in the 1930s in the oil fields. These men, he said, were wild brutes who regularly tore up the town of Maracaibo. Prieto also referred critically to the behavior of American naval personnel in Puerto la Cruz during World War II. At that time, the U.S. maintained certain patrol bases in the

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Puerto la Cruz area. While he did not say so, Prieto left the impression that he personally had been involved in unpleasant experiences with these Americans, and he spoke with considerable emotion about their behavior.

On balance, Prieto showed himself ambivalent toward the U.S. -- critical of our shortcomings and emotional over the concept of reactionary forces resorting to force to block social progress. Prieto is obviously still deeply suspicious of the U.S. and harbors an impression of the U.S. which includes high-handed imperialist characteristics, mixed together with his own personal confirmation of humanitarian, open friendly attitudes which he had found in his previous visit to the United States. He has sent various of his children to the U.S. to be educated suggesting that his negative impressions have certainly not won out against the positive.

Perhaps of even greater importance in the long run than Prieto's attitude toward the U.S., is what appears to be a certain emotional fragility in this man who may be Venezuela's next president. There have been past occasions when Prieto was emotional in dealing with matters of international affairs. Violent criticism of the U.S. because of our intervention in the Dominican Republic was widespread within Venezuela in 1965. It is notable, however, that Prieto was well out among the front-runners in this critical reaction and he certainly made no effort at that time to balance his criticism in any way. At the meeting of Latin American Parliamentarians in Lima in the summer of 1965, he gave a demagogic performance, directing most of his vituperativeness against us. Upon his return from Lima, Embassy officers met Dr. Prieto at a press reception, and at that time, Dr. Prieto went to great lengths to downplay the importance of his attack on the U.S. in Lima. He did not withdraw his criticism, but expressed unhappiness that so much emphasis had been placed on the anti-American aspects of his comments.

Emotional Stability of Prieto as a President

A strikingly parallel performance has occurred in connection with Senator Kennedy's death. In his statements to the press Prieto was emotional, quick on the draw and showed no signs of any reflectiveness or caution, which one might expect from a leading statesman. Even after evidence began to appear that Senator Kennedy was a victim of an Arab fanatic, Prieto continued to speak of the force of reactionaries who feared the progressive policies of the late Senator. In our conversation with him on the morning of June 6, Prieto wandered, repeated himself and was clearly wrought-up. There is no doubt of his deep and sincere motives in this instance, and it is clear that he is not wishing the U.S. harm. However, it is equally clear that, at least on this occasion, Prieto did not have full control of

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himself and his mental processes were far from measured.

Caldera Reacts

Without waiting for any evidence as to the motives behind the crime, COPEI presidential candidate Caldera issued a strong critical statement on June 5. He linked Senator Kennedy's assassination with those of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, referred to continuing U.S. diplomatic errors in contending that the assassination will damage U.S. prestige more than any of our government policies, and insisted that a reactionary Mafia exists in the U.S. which has carried out these crimes.

Barrios Weighs In

AD presidential candidate Gonzalo Barrios was not heard from until the following day. However, when he spoke out, in spite of growing evidence of a deranged Arab fanatic as the source of the crime, Barrios attributed it to "growing dissatisfaction over U.S. involvement in the Viet Nam war. Barrios contended that this war has the U.S. in the role of aggressor and Kennedy was clearly opposed to this.

Conclusion:

The Embassy has long ago come to the conclusion that if Prieto were elected president of Venezuela he would head an administration with which we would be able to work, an administration which would move ahead toward the goals of the Alliance for Progress. It has also been clear for sometime that the strain of nationalism and populist socialism, which are integral parts of Prieto's political personality, would cause certain problems for us. On balance, however, we have confidence that Prieto would not be a bad thing. Our insight into his personal concepts of the U.S. and his emotional stability do not change this assessment. They do, however, indicate specific areas where some troubles may arise should Prieto become president, and reveal that we have our work cut out for us in terms of developing his attitude toward the U.S. into a more positive posture.

It is equally true that Caldera would be an effective reform-minded president. Less emotional than Prieto, he would probably be somewhat less prone to shoot from the hip than his MEP opponent. At the same time he is demonstrably more dogmatic and militant than Prieto and, therefore, would probably be less flexible in his dealings with us. The reaction to Kennedy's murder provides solid evidence that Caldera's basic feeling about the U.S. is just as ambivalent as that of Prieto, and even Barrios quickly slipped into the critical pattern of reaction.

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It must be noted in this respect that the critical statements of Venezuelan political leaders are decidedly in line with reactions by prominent Americans, some of which were a good deal more critically emotional with even less of a basis.

BERNBAUM

A handwritten signature, possibly "W", is written below the typed name "BERNBAUM".

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 00

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R 071530Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5617
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TUNIS 4861

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR MRN ONLY VICE 4860

SUBJECT: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: TUNIS 4830

1. ASSASSINATION OF SEN. KENNEDY WAS MAJOR SUBJECT IN PRESS AND MAN-IN-STREET DISCUSSION, (SUPPLANTING ANNIVERSARY OF JUNE 5.)

2. FRENCH LANGUAGE LA PRESSE EDITORIALIZED THAT KENNEDY, LIKE OTHER MEN OF HIS QUALITY, WAS VICTIM OF VENGEANCE AND HATE. EDITORIAL SAID VIOLENCE WAS BECOMING FORM OF POLITICAL ACTION NOT ONLY IN U.S. BUT THROUGHOUT WORLD WHERE VOICES OPENLY CALLED ON VIOLENCE AS SINGLE MEANS FOR ARRIVING AT POLITICAL ENDS, AND SHOWS THAT TRADITIONAL POLITICAL METHODS ARE OUTDATED ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY IS ATTACK AGAINST LIBERTY, TOLERANCE, AND JUSTICE. QUOTE THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THIS NOBLE FIGURE POSES THE PROBLEM OF DEMOCRACY, LIBERTY, AND DEGRADATION OF POLITICAL VALUES IN OUR TIME.. AS ALL HEROES, BOB KENNEDY LIVED FOR HIS IDEAS AND DIED FOR HIS IDEAS. THAT IS WHY THE VALUES FOR WHICH HE FOUGHT WILL REMAIN ALIVE. END QUOTE

3. EDITORIALS IN TWO ARABIC PAPERS DEALT WITH ARAB BACKGROUND OF SUSPECT. OFFICIAL AL-AMAL, AFTER PRAISING KENNEDY'S LEADERSHIP

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Department of State

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ABILITIES AND ACTIVITIES IN GOVERNMENT, SAID IT WAS IRRELEVANT TO DISCUSS HIS OPINIONS ON ME BECAUSE KENNEDY WAS INFLUENCED, LIKE MOST OTHER AMERICANS AND NON-AMERICANS IN FREE WORLD, BY ZIONIST PROPAGANDA WHICH MISLED HIM ON PALESTINIAN AFFAIR. EDITORIAL SPOKE OUT AGAINST WAVES OF VIOLENCE IN U.S., AND SAID IT WAS INTERNAL PROBLEM THAT AMERICANS MUST FACE AS THEY FACED THEIR REVOLUTION AGAINST COLONIALS. ANY OTHER ANALYSIS OR EXPLANATION OF THIS VIOLENCE, WHETHER INDIVIDUAL OR COLLECTIVE, IS ONLY QUOTE SAND IN EYES. UNQUOTE NO MATTER WHAT IDENTITY OF CRIMINAL, HE IS AN ELEMENT OF A SOCIETY WHICH ONE AMERICAN LEADER HAS DESCRIBED AS BEING QUOTE A SICK SOCIETY. UNQUOTE

4. AS-SABAH COMMENTED MORE DIRECTLY ON BACKGROUND OF SUSPECT. NO DOUBT, IT SAYS, THAT BEHIND THIS CRIMINAL ACT THERE IS MAJOR CONSPIRACY, NURSED AND PREPARED FOR LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES, AND ZIONISM HAS HAND IN IT. WE RECEIVED WITH MUCH RESERVE, IT SAYS, INFORMATION THAT YOUNG ARAB, EVEN A CRHSITIAN, WAS INVOLVED IN CRIME AGAINST KENNEDY, PARTICULARLY FACT THAT HE DID THIS VOLUNTARILY AND ON HIS OWN, AND THAT THIS WAS RESULT OF VENGEANCE FOR HIS COUNTRY. IN ANY CASE, WE SPEAK OUT AGAINST THIS DESPICABLE MANNER OF RIDDING ONSELF OF ONE'S ADVERSARIES.

5. MAN-IN-STREET REACTION CONTINUES TO BE ONE OF SHOCK AND REGRET, MIXED WITH CONFUSION AS TO WHAT IMPLICATIONS ARE TO BE DRAWN FROM FACT THAT SUSPECT IS OF ARAB ORIGIN. LA PRESSE ARTICLE SAID, THAT, UPON HEARING NEWS OF SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH, QUOTE BOTH HIGH OFFICIAL AND TAXI DRIVERS WERE DEEPLY AFFECTED... INNERQUOTE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE END INNER QUOTE WAS THE GENERAL REACTION. IN WORKSHOPS, SCHOOLS, AND OFFICES, THE NEWS SPREAD. EACH THOUGHTOF THE SAD DESTINY OF THESE TWO BROTHERS WHO DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY AND WHO WERE TRAGICLY STRUCK DOWN. END QUOTE

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

Robert F. Kennedy

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PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00422 071706Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /086 W

R 071640Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 794

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUXEMBOURG 422

SUBJECT: LUXEMBOURG REACTION TO DEATH OF KENNEDY.

1. SHOOTING AND DEATH OF ROBERT KENNEDY CONTINUE TO MONOPOLIZE FRONT PAGES OF ALL LOCAL PAPERS AND DOMINATE CONVERSATION HERE.

2. PRESS COMMENTARY HAS BEEN UNUSUALLY HEAVY FOR LUXEMBOURG. INITIAL REACTIONS TENDED TO EMPHASIZE ALLEGED POLITICAL ASPECT OF SHOOTING. LATE SENATOR'S LIBERAL POLICIES WERE COMPARED WITH THOSE OF JOHN KENNEDY AND MARTIN KING, WITH IMPLICATION ALL THREE KILLINGS WERE RESULT OF REACTIONARY PLOTS. EQUALLY STRESSED WAS THEME OF AMERICAN VIOLENCE AND QUICKNESS TO REACH FOR GUNS TO SETTLE POLITICAL DISPUTES. NORMALLY ANTI-AMERICAN COMMENTATORS PRESENTED THIS AS PARTICULARLY AMERICAN PHENOMENON, WHILE MORE FRIENDLY PRESS WENT ON TO GENERALIZE AND SOUND ALARM OVER WORLD-WIDE TREND TOWARD DISORDER AND SOCIAL BREAKDOWN.

3. AS CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING KILLING BECAME CLEARER, PARTICULARLY IN WAKE OF SENATOR'S DEATH, COMMENT TENDED TO MODERATE SOMEWHAT, STRESSING EXPRESSIONS OF GRIEF AND LOSS TO WORLD. READY ACCESSABILITY OF GUNS IN US, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO BE SPOTLIGHTED AS TARGET OF SCATHING CRITICISM. FREQUENTLY NOTED IN PERSONAL COMMENT TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL BY LUXEMBOURGERS, IS FACT THAT SUSPECTED KILLER IS EVIDENTLY NOT US CITIZEN.

4. EVIDENT THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN FACT THAT KENNEDY NAME HAS LOST NONE OF ITS CACHET IN LUXEMBOURG AND THAT LUXEMBOURGERS ARE CONVINCED ROBERT KENNEDY WOULD HAVE SUCCEEDED IN SOLVING AMERICAN AND WIDER PROBLEMS WHOSE SOLUTION HAS SO FAR ELUDED OTHERS.

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PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00422 071706Z

THEY ARE REACTING WITH STRONG AND REAL EMOTION TO HIS LOSS.

5. OUR PRESENT ASSESSMENT IS THAT EVEN IF KENNEDY DEATH IS SHOWN TO HAVE BEEN WORK OF DERANGED FANATIC ACTING IN ISOLATION, IT HAS DEALT BLOW TO AMERICAN IMAGE HERE, EFFECTS OF WHICH WILL BE SOME TIME IN WEARING OFF. FELDMAN

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ROBERT F.
Department of State

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 09908 071119Z

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INFO USIE 00, H 02, RSR 01, SSO 00, CPR 02, SC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, /055 W

P 070943Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5324

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE CONCERNING DEATH OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

1. THE FOLLOWING CABLE WAS SENT JUNE 6 BY PRESIDENT OF
THE REPUBLIC CHARLES HELOU TO MRS. ROBERT F. KENNEDY,
C/O US SENATE WASHINGTON DC: QUOTE IT IS WITH GREAT
CONSTERNATION THAT WE LEARNED THE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCES
OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH. VERY AFFECTED BY THIS NEW
MISFORTUNE WHICH HAS STRUCK THE KENNEDY FAMILY. MY
WIFE AND I SHARE YOUR SADNESS AND PRESENT YOU WITH OUR
DEEP CONDOLENCES. SIGNED: CHARLES HELOU, PRESIDENT OF
THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC UNQTE.

2. PRESIDENT'S OFFICE HAS NO OBJECTION IF KENNEDY
FAMILY WISHES TO RELEASE THE TEXT OF THIS CABLE.

3. PRIMIN ABDALLAH YAFI MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
JUNE 6: QTE WE ARE GRIEVED BECAUSE DESTINY HAS BEEN
SO CRUEL TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY. I FEEL THE GREAT MIS-
FORTUNE WHICH HAS BEFALLEN THE KENNEDY FAMILY AND I
PRESENT MY WARMEST CONDOLENCES. WE ARE AGAINST ANY ACT
OF VIOLENCE AND ASSAULTS AGAINST HUMAN BEINGS AND LIFE,
ESPECIALLY SINCE OUR RELIGION AND EASTERN MORALITY
PROHIBIT AND DISAPPROVE OF SUCH UNQTE.

4. KAMAL AL-ASSAD, SPEAKER OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT JUNE 6: QTE WE CONSIDER
THE ATTACK AGAINST SENATOR KENNEDY AS AN ATTACK ON THE

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FREEDOM OF NOT ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BUT OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, THIS FREEDOM WHICH IS THE REASON FOR LEBANON'S BEING. THE HAND THAT ASSASSINATED ROBERT KENNEDY ATTACKED NOT ONLY HIS LIFE BUT ALSO ASSAILED FREEDOM OF OPINION, SPEECH AND POLITICAL ACTION BECAUSE FREEDOM IS THE PRINCIPAL PILLAR OF DEMOCRACY UNQTE.

5. OTHER PROMINENT LEBANESE OFFICIALS AND PERSONS HAVE MADE STATEMENTS CONDEMNING THE ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY. THESE STATEMENTS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM. SPOKESMAN OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEE STUDENTS AT UNRWA VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER SIBLIN TELEPHONED EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY ON BEHALF ALL STUDENTS AT CENTER. OTHER STUDENT SPOKESMAN HAVE ALSO CALLED TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY. MAK

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, F 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 22, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, /114 W

R 072300Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

SECSTATE WASHDC 2922

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 2051

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RENDERS TRIBUTE TO ROBERT KENNEDY

1. PRESIDENT FIDEL SANCHEZ WAS "KEY-NOTE" SPEAKER AT FIRST MEETING OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HIS MAIN THEME WAS THAT PARTY POLITICS SHOULD NEVER BE AN IMPAIRMENT TO THE PROMOTION OF PROJECTS OF NATIONAL INTEREST. THE COUNTRY'S INTERESTS SHOULD ALWAYS PREVAIL OVER ANY PARTISAN ACTION. A DIALOGUE AND TEAMWORK MUST ALWAYS EXIST BETWEEN ALL POLITICAL FACTION.

2. THE MOST IMPRESSIVE PORTION OF THE CEREMONY WAS WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ASKED EVERYONE TO STAND FOR A MINUTE OF SILENCE IN TRIBUTE TO FORMER SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY. TAPS WERE PLAYED DURING THE PERIOD OF SILENCE. THIS GESTURE WAS WELL-RECEIVED BY ALL THOSE PRESENT.

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*San Salvador 2051
6/17/68*



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POL 6 US/Kennedy
ROBERT F
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INFO EUR 15, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, RSR 01, RSC 01,

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R 071527Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7202
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

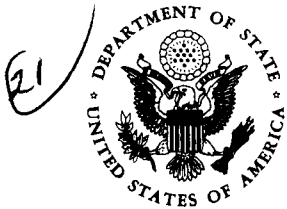
UNCLAS ROME 6420

PRESIDENT AND MADAME MOBUTU CAME TO EMBASSY JUNE 7 TO SIGN BOOK FOR SENATOR KENNEDY. SAID HE ACTING IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF CONGOLESE REPUBLIC, OF OAU, AND OF CONGO, CHAD, CAR UNION, AND AS SIGN HIS AND WIFE'S FEELINGS OF PERSONAL ATTACHMENT TO KENNEDY FAMILY. EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY. I THANKED HIM FOR GESTURE AND SAID WOULD INFORM FAMILY AND PRESIDENT.
ACKLEY

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MICROFILMED 28 JUL 68

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NIC 01, RSR 01, /087 W

R 072000Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WAHSDC 8633

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SUBJ: SOVIET PROPAGANDA CAPITALIZES ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: MOSCOW 4139

1. SOVIET PROPAGANDA MACHINERY CONTINUES TO GRIND OUT VICIOUS ANTI-US MATERIAL IN CONNECTION WITH SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION. MAIN THEME CONTINUES TO BE CHARGE THAT POLITICAL ASSASSINATION NATURAL CONCOMITANT US SYSTEM AND WAY OF LIFE.

2. BY LIBERAL USE OF FOREIGN SOURCES AS WELL AS ELABORATE SOVIET COMMENTARY (INCLUDING PARTICULARLY SCURRILOUS POEM BY YEVTUSHENKO IN TODAY'S PRAVDA) PRESS AND TV EAGERLY ATTEMPTING CREATE PICTURE OF A MURDEROUS GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY IN WHICH RACISM, GANGSTERISM, AND AGGRESSIVE WAR HAVE BECOME COMMON PLACE. WHILE CAMPAIGN THUS FAR STOPS SHORT OF ALLEGING SPECIFICALLY THAT THERE WAS AN OFFICIALLY-INSPIRED PLOT TO ELIMINATE KENNEDY, THERE IS PLENTY OF INNUENDO TO THIS EFFECT, ESPECIALLY IN TODAY'S TRUD AND IN YEVTUSHENKO'S POEM. PRAVDA TODAY GIVES CURRENCY TO INSINUATIONS OF A PLOT BY JUXTAPOSING WITH FRONT PAGE ARTICLES ON ASSASSINATION AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT A SECRET SESSION OF NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL HAD TAKEN PLACE.

3. IZVESTIYA TODAY TAKES OFFENSIVE ON QUESTION OF ORIGIN OF ALLEGED KILLER SIRHAN, CLAIMING THAT US PRESS TRYING TO SHIFT BLAME FROM AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE BY DESCRIBING SIRHAN AS BEING ANTI-ISRAELI. INCIDENTALLY, SAME ARTICLE REFERS TO SIRHAN AS NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZEN. THIS ASPECT OF CRIME THUS FAR OBVIOUSLY NOT USEFUL FOR EXPLOITATION AND CONTINUES

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BE PROBLEM FOR SOVIETS.

4. KOSYGIN MESSAGE TO MRS. KENNEDY AND SPIRIDONOV-PALETSKIS MESSAGE TO VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY BOTH APPEARED TODAY'S PRAVDA. WE NOTE EMPHASIS ON "INDIGNATION" IN BOTH MESSAGES.

5. SIGNERS OF CONDOLENCE BOOK AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE THUS FAR MAINLY MEMBERS DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND RESIDENT AMERICANS WITH SPRINKLING JOURNALISTS AND OTHERS. ONLY SOVIET OFFICIALS SIGNING DURING DAY WERE SEC GEN MFA ZEMSKOV AND CHIEF US DIVISION MFA KORNIENKO. ONLY OTHER SOVIET SIGNER (BESIDES TWO LOCAL EMPLOYEES) DETAINED BRIEFLY BY MILITIAMEN BEFORE BEING PERMITTED ENTER SPASO HOUSE. ANOTHER SIGNER ALSO DETAINED TEMPORARILY AT GATE BUT ALLOWED ENTER WHEN HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS AMERICAN STUDENT. AFTER CLOSE OF BUSINESS YEVTUSHENKO, AKSENOV, BRODSKY AND TWO COMPANIONS CAME INTO EMBASSY COMPOUND TO SIGN BOOK.

EXEMPT. SWANK

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ROBERT F. **TELEGRAM**

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INFO SSO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NEC 00

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIE 00, NIC 01, D 02, CPR 02, RSP 01, 00

R 071228Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6111
INFO AMCONGEN MUNICH

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STATE PASS USIA/IBS POLISH DESK

1. EMBOFF HAS LEARNED THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE ALL WARSAW CHURCHES SUNDAY THAT SPECIAL REQUIEM MASS FOR SENATOR KENNEDY WILL BE HELD MONDAY EVENING 1900 HOURS ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL IN OLD TOWN. STRONG POSSIBILITY CARDINAL WLODYNSKI WILL ATTEND. WE UNDERSTAND SERVICE ARRANGED ON CARDINAL'S DIRECT INITIATIVE. EMBASSY OFFICERS WILL BE REPRESENTED WITH OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ALSO TO BE INVITED.

2. WE INTEND ALERT WESTERN PRESS CORRESPONDENTS ON THIS TODAY. IF ANNOUNCEMENT CARRIED COMMERCIAL WIRES, VOA SHOULD PUBLICIZE IMMEDIATELY. OTHERWISE ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE HELD UP UNTIL SUNDAY EVENING BROADCAST. ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD ALSO BE CARRIED ON ENGLISH TRANSMISSIONS TO EASTERN EUROPE. JENKINS

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ROBERT F.
Department of State

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INFO NIC 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, EA 10, NEA 13, ACDA 16, RSR 01,
/126 W

R 071810Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7208
INFO RUEFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 1036
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6441

SUBJECT: COMMUNISTS EXPLOIT ASSASSINATION

1. PREDICTABLY ITALIAN COMMUNISTS ARE USING ROBERT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION TO MOUNT ANTI-AMERICAN PRESS CAMPAIGN WITH THEME THAT UNSOLVABLE CONTRADICTIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY LEAD TO CHAIN OF VIOLENCE AND ASSERTIONS ABOUT SINGLE PLOT LEADING TO KILLINGS OF TWO KENNEDYS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING. IN STATEMENT BY PCI SECRETARY LONGO AND DOCUMENT OF PCI DIRECTORATE ITALIANS ARE WARNED OF DANGERS THAT "POLICY OF ALLIANCE AND SUBORDINATION TO AMERICA" BRING TO ITALY (LONGO), AND "ALL DEMOCRATIC FORCES" ARE REQUESTED TO FIND NEW FOREIGN POLICY AND INITIATIVES TO BRING VIET-NAM PEACE, LIQUIDATE US BASES IN ITALY AND MEDITERRANEAN, AND MOVE TOWARD SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS OF SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT (DIRECTORATE).

2. PRIMIN MORO AFTER SIGNING CONDOLENCE BOOK AT EMBASSY EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT ABOVE PCI USE OF ASSASSINATION TO LAUNCH PRESS ASSAULT ON US AND ON NATO ALLIANCE.

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6/7/68



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3. COMMENT: WIDESPREAD FEELING STILL EXISTS IN ITALY THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS KILLED AS RESULT OF PLOT. ALTHOUGH LOGIC HOLDS AGAINST EXTENDING PLOT THEORY TO REV. KING AND SENATOR KENNEDY, MANY ITALIANS WILL FOLLOW EMOTION RATHER THAN LOGIC. UNFORTUNATELY, DEATH COMES DURING GOVERNMENT CRISIS WITH PCI ALREADY ON OFFENSIVE.

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POC 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT
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ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20, H 02, P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, NSC 10,

SSD 00, SY 03, FBI 01, RSR 01, /081 W

P 071442Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6115
 INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3493

1. PARTY NEWSPAPER TRYBUNA LUDU JUNE 7 COMMENTARY ON SENATOR KENNEDY SAYS ALLEGED MURDER HAD FOUR 100-DOLLAR BANKNOTES IN HIS POCKETS AT TIME OF MURDER. "ANYONE WHO HAS EVER BEEN TO AMERICA KNOWS THAT NEITHER AVERAGE CITIZENS OR MILLIONAIRES HAVE SUCH SUMS ON THEM. IN FACT ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BANKNOTE IS DUBIOUS. CASH IN SUCH BANKNOTES IS PAID TO BLACKMAILERS AND...PAID MURDERS. THIS TERM, PAID MURDERER," HAS DURING LAST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS APPEARED IN MANY NEWSPAPERS."

2. WE HAVE NOT SEEN AUTHORITATIVE NEWS REPORTS REFERENCE TO BANKNOTES. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CLARIFY. IF REPORT UNTRUE, WE WANT TO BE IN POSITION CORRECT IT WITH OUR CONTACTS. IF REPORT TRUE, WE CAN EXPECT MAJOR CONTINUING EMPHASIS HERE AS SUPPORT FOR CONSPIRACY THEORY.

3. VOA SHOULD HANDLE STORY DISCREETLY IF UNTRUE SO AS NOT TO GIVE TOO MUCH CURRENCY TO ORIGINAL REPORT. JENKINS

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy WARSAW
INFO: AmCon MUNICH

Info:

STATE:

REF: Warsaw 3493

FYI only: Dept. ~~under review~~ understands news media carrying story based on police sources that alleged murderer of Kennedy was carrying four one hundred dollar bills at time of murder. Reasons advanced for this purely speculative and will have to be ascertained in court. Wireless file contains full reports on Kennedy assassination developments on basis established guidelines.

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GP-3

END.

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Drafted by:

EUR/P:MWJabek:pt

Tel. Ext.

3460

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

EUR - Mr. Jerabek

Clearances:

P - Mr. Phillips

EE - Mr. McKisson

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT
Department of State
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INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
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R 071111Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6110
INFO AMCONSUL POZNAN UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 3487

1. TRYBUNA LUDU (TL) AND ZYCIE WARSZAWY (ZW) COMMENTARIES USE SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY AS SPRINGBOARD FOR ATTACK ON US "LAWLESSNESS" AND IMPLIED GOVT. COMPLICITY IN POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS. BOTH PAPERS LINK SHOOTING WITH ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING AND CONCLUDE THAT "LAW OF JUNGLE IS IN FORCE AND BULLET RULES" IN US. COMMENTARIES ADMONISH WASHINGTON, IN ZW'S TERMS, TO "FIRST OF ALL PUT ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER BEFORE GIVING LESSONS TO OTHERS." NEITHER COMMENTARY (WRITTEN BEFORE DEATH OF KENNEDY) EXPRESSES REGRET OR IN ANY WAY EULOGIZES SENATOR KENNEDY. ZW ARTICLE JUNE 7, HOWEVER, CHARACTERIZES BOTH KENNEDYS AS BEING "QUICK AND INTELLIGENT, WHICH IS NOT ALWAYS CHARACTERISTIC OF AMERICAN POLITICIANS."

2. OF TWO, ZQ COMMENTARY OF JASZUNSKI IS MORE VICIOUS. ZW IMPLIES THAT MURDERERS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND KING "ENJOYED IMPUNITY." THERE IS IMPLICIT CHARGE THAT REAL CULPRITS ARE FBI AND CIA, BOTH OF WHICH "WERE COMPLETELY COMPROMISED AT TIME OF ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY." ZW SUGGESTS THAT SEN. KENNEDY MAY HAVE KNOWN TOO MUCH ABOUT ASSASSINATION OF HIS BROTHER AND WAS THEREFORE "INCONVENIENT" TO PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S MURDERERS, ESPECIALLY AS PROSPECT HE MIGHT HIMSELF BECOME PRESIDENT ROSE.

3. WE INTEND IN INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH POLISH JOURNALISTS AND

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PAGE 02 WARSAW 03487 071201Z

OFFICIALS IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO MAKE CLEAR OUR DISGUST AT
SUCH DISPLAY OF BAD TASTE AND MALEVOLENT DISTORTIONS.
EXEMPT. JENKINS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, EUR 15, CPR 02, RSR 01, /111 W

R 071135Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 430
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 423

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. CONGEN AND USIS HAVE RECEIVED DEEP FELT EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FROM HIGH AND LOWLY. CONGEN HAD MANY PERSONAL CALLS FROM COMMUNITY LEADERS INCLUDING STAUNCH AFRIKANERS. AMONG THEM WERE TWO FORMER SA AMBASSADORS J.E. HOLLOWAY AND HARRY T. ANDREWS AND TOP INDUSTRIALISTS H.J. VAN ECK AND GEORGE KUSCHKE.

2. MEDIA REACTION TO RFK SHOOTING: QUICKEST OFF MARK WAS SABC WHICH INTERRUPTED MORNING BROADCASTS, FOLLOWED WITH FREQUENT BULLETINS ON ENGLISH, AFRIKAANS AND VARIOUS AFRICAN LANGUAGE SERVICES. RAND DAILY MAIL EXTRA EDITION WITHIN HOUR AFTER NEWS ALERT WAS QUICK SELLOUT.

3. MAIL THURSDAY CARRIED FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL HEADLINED "ACT OF MADNESS". SIGNED BY MAIL EDITOR LAURENCE GANDAR, LONG TIME RFK ADMIRER, PIECE REASONS THAT ACT HAPPENED BECAUSE U.S. STILL FRONTIER SOCIETY AND IS "IN UNCEASING TRANSITION". BOTH KENNEDYS AND LUTHER KING RECENTLY TARGETS OF VIOLENCE, ALL ACTIVE FIGHTERS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE. FORCES OF REACTION IN U.S. ARE ORGANIZED BY SUCH AS KKK; IN S.A. THEY ARE "INSTITUTIONALIZED IN THE APPARATUS OF THE STATE".

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RM AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS CARRIED FRONTPAGE FACTUAL REPORTS. BACKGROUNDER ITEMS PLAYED UPI KENNEDY OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID. DIE VADERLAND HARKS BACK TO JFK UN POSITION AGAINST S.A. AND YOUNGER BROTHER'S VISIT WITH POPE WHICH REVEALED LATTER MORE OUTSPOKEN CRITIC THAN LATE PRESIDENT. DIE TRANSVALER IN LEAD ARTICLE FINDS PROOF IN SHOOTINGS OF "SOMETHING RADICALLY WRONG RELIGIOUSLY AND MORALLY" WITH REST OF WORLD. EDITOR FEELS AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED PROFOUND SOUL SEARCHING.

5. CURRENT AFFAIRS, SEMI-OFFICIAL NATIONWIDE RADIO COMMENTARY, ANNOUNCED THAT "WHILE MANY SOUTH AFRICANS DID NOT RPT NOT PREFER ROBERT KENNEDY TO BECOME US PRESIDENT", NEVERTHELESS ENTIRE NATION GRIEVES FOR HIM AND FAMILY. ALTHOUGH KENNEDY "HAD HIS FAULTS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS" HE WAS BASICALLY GOOD MAN. COMMENTARY BASED ON VIOLENCE AND ANARCHY IN US, CALLING FOR RULE OF LAW IN ALL CIVILIZED SOCIETIES. INFERRED IN FOREGOING AND IN AFRIKAANS PRESS WAS SATISFACTION AT ABSENCE OF VIOLENCE AND RIOTS IN PEACEFUL SOUTH AFRICA.

6. AFTER KENNEDY DEATH ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS CARRIED APPROPRIATE EDITORIAL MESSAGES OF GRIEF AND CONDOLENCES. AFRIKAANS LANGUAGE PRESS HOWEVER FINDING ITS FEET COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS:

DIE VADERLAND JUNE 6 - IN ADDITIONA TO MUCH FACTUAL REPORTING ISSUE CARRIED LEADING ARTICLE "LAW OF THE JUNGLE". EDITOR BEGINS BY STATING THAT SENATOR'S ATTITUDE TO SA RACE PROBLEMS HAD MADE SA APPREHENSIVE ABOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR THIS COUNTRY IF KENNEDY HAD BECOME PRESIDENT. "BUT THE HORROR IN LOS ANGELES IS NOT RPT NOT THE WAY IN WHICH CIVILIZED PEOPLE IN A CIVILIZED COUNTRY SETTLE THEIR DIFFERENCES". ARTICLE THEN DISCUSSED EVIL OF WHICH MAN IS CAPABLE "WHEN HIS SPIRIT IS TROUBLED BY DARK PASSIONS RESULTING FROM STRUGGLE AND ENVY OF OUR TIMES"... "NOWHERE IN THE WORLD ARE BRUTAL LICENSE AND LAWLESS VIOLENCE MORE EVIDENT THAN IN THE U.S. WHICH IS IN THE THROES OF AN INTERNAL STRUGGLE... AND UNDER THE COMPULSION OF A BOUNDLESS

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FEELING OF GUILT, THE DEFIANCE OF LAW AND ORDER IS TOLERATED... EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF APPROVAL OF VIOLENCE AS A POLITICAL TOOL IN THE HANDS OF VANDALS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD". EDITOR THEN SAYS IT IS TIME FOR LEADERS OF GREAT WESTERN CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION TO TURN STRONGLY AGAINST THIS INEFFECTUAL ACCEPTANCE OF VIOLENCE BY INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONS. "WHEN WILL AMERICAN LEADERS (HORRIFIED BY SECOND KENNEDY ASSASSINATION) EXPRESS THEIR DISAPPROVAL OF COUNTRIES AND GROUPS WHICH, TRAINED AND ARMED FOR THE PURPOSE, WANT TO DEPRIVE THE NATIONS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA OF THE RIGHT TO DECIDE THEIR OWN FATE?"

DIE TRANSVALER JUNE 7:

IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THE HEART OF THE MATTER" ISSUE DISCUSSES COMMISSION WHICH PRESIDENT JOHNSON IS APPOINTING TO INVESTIGATE CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST PUBLIC FIGURES IN THE U.S. ARTICLE STATES THAT COMMISSION'S WORK WILL ONLY BE OF VALUE IF IT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT STEADY UNDERMINING OF MORAL PRINCIPLES ON WHICH WESTERN CIVILIZATION IS FOUNDED. IN U.S. IT TRACES THIS UNDERMINING FROM JEFFERSON AND FRANKLIN THROUGH TWO WORLD WARS TO PERNICIOUS EFFECT OF "HOLLYWOOD CULTURE" NOT RPT NOT ONLY ON U.S. BUT ON REST OF WORLD. "THERE IS SURELY REASON FOR CHARLES DE GAULLE'S DOING EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO KEEP AMERICAN INFLUENCES OUT OF FRANCE"!

7. ON SATURDAY JUNE 8 AT ELEVEN A.M. AT ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL CONGEN AND STAFF WILL ASSIST AT REQUIEM MASS BY AMERICAN PAULIST FATHERS. ATTENDING WILL BE MAYOR OF JOHANNESBURG, MEMBERS OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS, RELIGIOUS AND LAY LEADERS OF THE WHITE AND AFRICANS COMMUNITIES, EDUCATORS AND STUDENT LEADERS FROM UNIVERSITIES AND GENERAL PUBLIC AT THIS MULTI-RACIAL HOUSE OF WORSHIP. REINER

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R 072226Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2142
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
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ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS-EMBASSY MESSAGE

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTIONS KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

PAPERS CONTINUE FEATURE KENNEDY
ASSASSINATION. EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS FOLLOW YESTERDAY
LINE. EXAMPLES ARE FOLLOWING:
OCTAVIO MALTA IN ULTIMA HORA SEES A
POLITICAL CONSPIRACY. FULL BACK PAGE SPREAD SPECULATION
ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY AND LINES TO OTHER ASSASSINATIONS.
D. HELDER CAMARA IN O JORNAL NLAMES
"TRUSTS" WHO CANNOT TOLERATE OBSTACLES IN THEIR PATH.
IN SAME PAPER GUANABARA LEGISLATORS QUOTED AS BLAMING
AMERICAN PEOPLE AND "CLIMATE OF BARBARIANISM ENVELOPING
U.S.". SENATOR MARIO MARTINS SAYS KENNEDY
ASSASSINATIONS NO COINCIDENCE.
ESTADO DE SAO PAULO SAYS "ASSASSIN NOT
PRODUCT OF AMERICAN SOCIETY, BUT OF WAVE OF HATE
AND VIOLENCE AROUND WORLD.
PRO-GOVERNMENT JORNAL DE BRASIL
ACCUSES OPPOSITION MDB OF DISTORTING KENNEDY'S IDEAS
TO IDENTIFY WITH THEIR OWN CAUSE. PAPER TRIES TO TAKE
ULTRA OUT OF HIS LIBERALISM.
IN BACKGROUND ARTICLE, JORNAL DO BRASIL SAYS

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PAGE 02 RIO DE 08675 072349Z

KENNEDY HAD ENEMIES, E.G. BIRCH SOCIETY, HOFFA, MAFIA. ARTICLE MAKES MUCH OF POLITICAL ENMITY BETWEEN KENNEDY AND JOHNSON BUT ACCUSES NOBODY OF COMPLICITY IN ASSASSINATION.

EDITORIAL IN DIARIO DE NOTICIAS: "IDEALISTS DIE BUT NOT IDEALS... ONLY IN A DEMOCRACY DOES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE NEED POPULAR VOTE AND HAVE TO GO AMONG THE PEOPLE... FRACILITY OF LEADERS AND PEOPLE, IS ALSO ITS GREATNESS AND HEREIN LIES ITS TRANSCENDENT VIRTUE".

HERON DOMINGUES OF DIARIO DE NOTICIAS SAYS MODERN MASS COMMUNICATIONS IN U.S. PUT PUBLIC FIGURES TOO MUCH IN LIMELIGHT, GREATING UNDUE PASSION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS AND ISSUES.

JORNAL DO COMERCIO REPORTS THAT AT CEREMONY OF BRAZILIAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS HONORING GORKI, USSR AMBASSADOR PRAISED OF CEREMONY.

D. SERAFIM DERNANDES DE ARAUJO, BISHOP OF BELO HORIZONTE, QUOTED IN CORREIO DA MANHA: "ALL WHO APPEAR THERE WITH SAME IDEAS OF BOB KENNEDY WILL BE ELIMINATED, SINCE GROUP EXISTS THERE PREPARED FOR THIS".

PAULO FRANCIS (LEFTIST COLUMNIST) WRITES IN SAME PAPER THAT FBI IMPLICATED SINCE HOOVER HATES KENNEDY'S IDEAS AND WANTS TO PROTECT HIS OWN JOB. VISCIOUSLY ATTACKS CONGRESS AS INDIFFERENT TO SOCIAL PROBLEMS. LAUDS D.H. LAWRENCE ANALYSIS OF US SOCIETY AS BRUTUALITY MASKED BY PURITAN CONCEPTS. SEES MCCARTHY LAST HOPE AGAINST RADICAL RIGHT.

CARLOS DRUMMOND DE ANDRADE IN SAME PAPER SEES ASSASSINATION AS SYMPTOM OF WORLD-WIDE CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE. ASKS WHO IS NEXT. CORREIO EDITORIAL: "A GREAT COUNTRY CAN HAVE BAD MOMENT IN ITS HISTORY, AND US HAS STRENGTH TO FEAT THIS DARK CONSPIRACY AGAINST ITS VALUES, PRESTIGE, AND FUTURE. KENNEDY DIED BECAUSE HE INTERPRETED THIS PATRIOTIC DETERMINATION AND DECISION TO FACE THESE FORCES, A MINORITY BUT POWERFULL."

O GLOBO HEADLINES "TED PROMISES CONTINUE POLITICAL FIGHT OF ROB".

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POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.	
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HANDLING INDICATOR		NO.
TO :	Department of State	
INFO :	CAPE TOWN, CAPE TOWN, PRETORIA, DURBAN	
FROM :	AmConGen JOHANNESBURG	DATE: June 7, 1968
SUBJECT :	Students Mourn Kennedy	
REF :		

The enclosure is Alan Paton's address to Wits University on the "Day of Affirmation of Academic and Human Freedom". While affirming his stand for the International Human Rights Year of 1968, Paton's text still seems a bit downcast and worried as he urges the students to dream for better days. The student body and speakers stood for a moment's silence in tribute to Robert Kennedy before Paton's speech, and to them, as well as with most liberals in South Africa, Kennedy's death is a loss of contact with the outside world which they are frightened they may not be able to replace.

Enclosure:
Clippings from Rand Daily Mail, June 7, 1968, of Alan Paton's address to Wits University.

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Drafted by: RC RCastrodale:dw	Drafting Date: 6/7/68	Phone No.: Contents and Classification Approved by: R. R. Jr.
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1968

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Students stand for Kennedy

Political Reporter

AT A CEREMONY which Robert Kennedy two years ago described as the "celebration of liberty", 1,200 people last night stood in silence for a minute to mark Kennedy's death.

It was the annual Nusas-sponsored "Day of Affirmation" of academic and human freedom, held last night at the University of the Witwatersrand. Dr. Alan Paton, leader of the Liberal Party, gave the annual address.

Exactly two years ago Senator Kennedy, who was visiting South Africa as a guest, delivered the address, at the University of Cape Town.

SYMPATHY

"I would like to express our deep grief and our deep sympathy, not only to America, but to Mrs. Kennedy and her children, and the child still to come," said Dr. Paton, before his address.

"To millions of people of all races Robert Kennedy was a symbol of faith in man," said Mr. John Kane-Berman, president of the university's Students' Representative Council.

Mr. John Daniel, the Nusas president, who also paid tribute to Senator Kennedy, said: "In him young people saw a hope for a new brand of politics in the future . . . now that he has gone it is difficult not to despair of hope for the future. But we will not despair — the message of Kennedy lives on."

Mr. Daniel said he believed that the Nationalist Government—when its "improper interference" legislation was passed; when the Liberal Party had disappeared and the Progressive Party had been segregated—would focus all its attention on Nusas.

Encl 1
A-477 Johannesburg
RAND DAILY MAIL
JUNE 7, 1968



Among 1,200 people at the annual "Day of Affirmation" ceremony at the University of the Witwatersrand last night who stood in silence to mark the death of Senator Robert Kennedy were (from the left): Dr. Alan Paton, Mr. John Kane-Berman, President of the Students' Representative Council of Wits University, Hon. O. D. Schreiner, Chancellor of the University, Mr. John Daniel, Nusas Resident and Professor I. D. MacCrone, principal of the University.

RAND DAILY MAIL - JUNE 7, 1968



Dr. Alan Paton addresses the meeting which was sponsored by Nusas.

Why we must go on dreaming

MBER 10, 1968, will be the 20th anniversary of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this year 1968 is designated International Human Rights Year.

The Universal Declaration is an affirmation by a majority of the nations of the world of the belief that man has certain inalienable rights, that he is not a man if he does not possess them, that he cannot live with dignity or purpose without them.

It is an affirmation of the fact that he has rights even against the State, that he must not be enslaved or tortured, that he may not be arbitrarily arrested or detained or punished. And that, if he is faced with the breaking of the law, he shall be entitled to a fair and public hearing in a court of law, and that it is only in a court of law that shall have the right to punish him, to lay claim on his property or his person, and to restrict his freedom.

The Universal Declaration affirms that anyone who is anyone who is ready to work has a right to be given the opportunity to choose the kind of work for which he is fitted, to receive fair wages, to form trade union, to be given security, shelter, and the necessary social services, to be secure in unemployment, sickness, disability and old age.

Everyone has a right to education, elementary education shall be free and compulsory. Higher education shall be accessible to all on the basis of merit. All education shall be directed to the strengthening of respect for human rights.

None of these rights shall be denied or exercised at the expense of the rights of others, and it shall be the duty of every nation to devise a just order in which its citizens may be able to exercise their rights

and discharge their responsibilities to their communities.

This Declaration of Human Rights was the second time in the history of Man that the nations of the world sat down and dreamed a dream.

Listen to the words of General Smuts: "We the peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and the worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained."

And what has become of the United Nations? It is a common pastime to sneer at their organisations and its ineffectiveness, and a common error to forget the reasons for it.

For built into the United Nations Organisation is the alarm mechanism that goes off each time it is in any danger of achieving the noble aim for which it was created.

The United Nations Organisation is ineffective — not primarily because its member governments want it to be

ineffective, but because it is a dream.

And one of the questions I want to discuss here tonight is whether there is any point in dreaming at all.

General Smuts started his Preamble with the words "We the peoples of the United Nations" and ended it with the words "accordingly, our respective Governments . . .", and we ought to know, and we must know, and especially as university people we must know, that what peoples dream and what governments do are not necessarily the same thing.

The first 20 years of this dream have not seen faith reaffirmed in fundamental human rights, or in the dignity and the worth of the human person, except on occasions such as these.

Is it worth while holding these days of affirmation when fundamental human rights, and the dignity and the worth of the human person, which are among the deepest hungers of the peoples of the world, are on the retreat in the face of the inexorable advances of our respective Governments?

Retreat

It is worth while affirming and re-affirming? — That is what we are considering tonight. The important question is not whether the dream is to be fulfilled, the important

question is whether we should go on dreaming it.

It was part of the intention of the Preamble that armed force should not be used, save in the common interest. In whose common interest is the war in Vietnam? To many of us the war in Vietnam is so terrible that there cannot be any justification for continuing it.

Here in our own country it requires no action by any court of law for a man or woman to be deprived of freedom to associate, to move about, to speak, to write, to publish, even to eat and drink with friends.

Year after year our Government takes to itself greater and greater power, and each time it does so, the rights of its citizens are diminished — and not only the rights of its citizens, but the rights of its institutions also, including this great University of the Witwatersrand, which each year affirms an ideal which it is no longer lawful to practise.

And here again we face the question which this night is demanding an answer from us: is there any point in affirming an ideal which it is no longer lawful to practise? Is there any point in affirming a belief which has no apparent relation to what is called contemporary reality?

What are the alternatives to

the affirmation of an ideal that appears to be unrealisable? There are two alternatives — one is to give in, the other is to despair.

If any man was entitled to despair, it was Bertrand Russell during the First World War of 1914 to 1918, when the bright youth of Britain, France, and Germany were exterminating one another, when 100,000 lives of promise were sacrificed to gain a few yards of mud, and another 100,000 sacrificed to win a few yards back again.

And the consequence of this sacrifice, this dying, this struggle to the death, this unspeakable heroism, was to give to Europe 20 years later the unspeakable horrors of Dachau, Belsen, Auschwitz and Hiroshima.

Russell had to live through Dachau and Belsen and Auschwitz and Hiroshima; he lived to see the signing of the Charter that was to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights and he lived to see the erosion of those rights.

He lived to see the use of armed force — which may be used only in the common interest — threaten not a small nation abroad, but a large nation at home, threaten its confidence and its pursuit of happiness, and its sweet American dream.

Yet if, he had been here last night, he would have affirmed what we have come here to affirm — and how then can we believe that there is no purpose, no use, no value, in affirming an ideal which can certainly not at this time be realised, and in dreaming a dream which can certainly not at this time be fulfilled?

Doctrinaire

For if we were to cease affirming, we would be ceasing to perform a task that man has performed from his very beginnings; we would be an act of apostasy have made of man the very creature that in our moments of despair we believe him to be.

Let us examine a little more closely the view — attractive to some of us in periods of frustration — that to affirm an ideal that cannot at this time be realised, is in fact to be doctrinaire incapable of adaptation, inflexible, resistant to doctrinaire, incapable of adapting itself to contemporary reality.

The holders of this view would argue that it is unrealistic to uphold the principle of the open university when the declared policy of the authorities is one of closed universities — that is, of ethnic universities, open to members of one race group and closed to those of others.

It seems to me that this is the view that is doctrinaire, inflexible, and blind to the contemporary reality of the wider world.

The reason why we affirm our belief in the open university is not because we are inflexible and opposed to change, but because we believe that it is only the open university that can guide and aid and sustain our sanity in the times of tremendous change that lie ahead — not only ahead of us, but ahead of the whole continent of Africa of which we are a part, a continent whose emancipation from a colonial past we wish to help to make more real, more meaningful.

And I believe with all my heart that the only kind of university which will be able to offer that kind of help will be the open university, the principle of which we affirm tonight.

There are times when one cannot adapt oneself to contemporary reality. If the late Professor Hoernle had lived under Hitler he would not have adapted himself to contemporary reality — he would rather have died — and he would have died too, because Hitler would certainly not have allowed

Another view

Now I shall examine another view — akin to the first — that to pit the force of an ideal or a principle against raw and sometimes ruthless political power, is quite fatuous; that the only thing to pit against political power is another political power; that you must quit your ivory tower and get down there into the arena and play the game of power.

But there are times when you cannot get down and play the game of power, because you have no steel, no armour, no lance. The only thing that you have is your belief, and the only thing you can do with your belief is to affirm it.

I venture to read to you words which are not usually used on occasions such as this, but which are relevant to our situation.

"For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come to mind.

"But be glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

"And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people; and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

Unfulfilled

"They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat; for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord."

And was it ever fulfilled? No, but it just went on being prophesied. It was prophesied by John in Palms, and Thomas More in England, and Karl Marx and the Charter of the United Nations, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; the unattainable goal, the unfulfillable dream, the history of man's long striving for something that he has never achieved.

But if he were to stop striving for the unbelievable world in which the wolf lies down with the lamb, and in which the nations of the world abjure the use of war, they would destroy the mountain itself and the great adventure of men would come to its end.

I should like to address some words to the supporters of Nusas. The words I have already used were intended to be of encouragement to them, but these are especially so.

I do not expect that the future is going to be easy for you.

You have been advised by many people to drop politics and stick to your studies. This seems strange advice, coming as it often does from people responsible for giving the vote to all White South Africans when they turn eighteen.

It was the intention of our legislators not that our students should eschew politics, but that they should take a lively interest in them. It was because the students of the Afrikaans-language Universities took a lively interest in politics that the Nationalist Government came to power.

If there is to be any change in the dangerous foreign policies of America it will be largely due to the lively interest of American students in politics, and the fact that so many of them feel so deeply that they have actually abandoned their studies to help in the electoral campaigns — and all this because of their deep love for their country and their concern for its honourable name.

Not Strange

I do not think it strange that South African students should sing "Die Stem van Suid-Afrika" when they are saying farewell to a man who is going into exile because he has been restricted in such a way that he can no longer pursue his chosen career, for they sing also because of their love for their country and their concern for its name.

South Africa has been called a land of fear, and that is true. But it is a land of great courage also.

Politics is life, politics is living, politics is your present and your future, with politics are bound up indissolubly your ideals and your beliefs.

There is only one word of advice that I can offer you, and that is that while you have a duty to your country and your society and your fellow man, you also have a duty to yourselves, and that duty is to join in the acquisition and advancement of knowledge, and to equip yourselves for the future by paying a proper attention to your studies.

It is right and fitting that your National Union should concern itself with the affairs of its society and its people, with the pursuit of justice as you see that justice to be, with the pursuit of freedom as you see that freedom to be, with the pursuit of truth which is another of those unattainable goals whose pursuit nevertheless gives meaning and direction to our lives.

No obligation

In those pursuits you are under no obligation to believe as others believe, or as others would wish you to believe.

No State, no Government, no Church, no Party, has any right to tell you what you must believe, just as you have no right to tell others what they should believe.

But you have a right to try to persuade others, just as they have a right not to listen to your persuasion.

It is these pursuits that make us fully human, that give us that dignity and worth of the human person which is spoken of in the Charter of the United Nations.

May you continue to pursue these things, within all the limits and restrictions that may be imposed upon you, for while you continue to do this, many others will be encouraged to continue also.

DR. ALAN PATON last night delivered the sixth annual "Day of Affirmation of Academic and Human Freedom" address, at the University of the Witwatersrand. He posed the question of whether there was any point in affirming a belief at a time when it could not be realised. And to this he gave his own answer: "The important question is not whether the dream is to be fulfilled. The important question is whether the dream is to be lived."



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Pal to US/Kennedy, Robert 27

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THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL ADVISED CHARGE THAT PERU WILL
ACCREDIT AS ITS OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO KENNEDY FUNERAL
AMBASSADOR CARLOS MACKEHENIE, PERUVIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE UN, LEAVING TO HIS DISCRETION WHETHER ALSO TO
ACCREDIT CONUNSELOR OF THE DELEGATION VALDIVIESO. SIRACUSA

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TELEGRAM

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USIA FOR IOP/GM

JUNE SEVEN EDITORIAL COMMENT SENATOR KENNEDY. EDITORIALS
DIVIDED INTO THREE TYPES.

1. CANBERRA TIMES, MELBOURNE SUN, SYDNEY DAILY TELEGRAPH
EMPHASIZE GRIEF, COMPASSION, AND HOPE KEEN SHOCK WILL PUT END
FURTHER VIOLENCE. DAILY TELEGRAPH QUOTES PRESIDENT JOHNSON
AT LENGTH. SUN QUOTE IT IS SURELY MORE A QUESTION OF GETTING
PEOPLE TO THINK STRAIGHT RATHER THAN RAISING NEW SECURITY
BARRIERS UNQUOTE.

2. SYDNEY MORNING HERALD AND AUSTRALIAN GO BEYOND THIS AND
DISCUSS IMPACT ON PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. BOTH FORESEE BENEFITS
ACCRUING TO THE VICE PRESIDENT AND MR. NIXON.

3. FINANCIAL REVIEW ATTEMPTS DISCUSSION IN WORLD-WIDE SETTING.
QUOTE IT WOULD BE WRONG IF ALL THIS MINDLESSNESS AND
DESTRUCTION ALLOWED THE FORCES OF THE EXTREME RIGHT OR LEFT TO
RISE IN THE NAME OF LAW, ORDER AND DISCIPLINE TO IMPOSE THEIR
OWN FORMS OF RESTRICTION AND REGIMENTATION. THE BASIC RESPECT
THAT IS NEEDED IN THE WORLD IS RESPECT FOR PEOPLE UNQUOTE.

THE MELBOURNE AGE FOCUSES ON ASSASSINATIONS IN THE UNITED
STATES. QUOTE FOR ROBERT KENNEDY THE TRAGEDY HAS ENDED. FOR
HIS COUNTRY THERE MAY BE WORSE TO COME. THE PATTERN IS TOO
HORRIFYINGLY CLEAR TO IGNORE. IN AMERICA ASSASSINATION IS THE
LIKELY FATE OF MEN WHO EMBRACE GREAT CAUSES, WHO STAND UP

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PAGE 02 CANBER 06088 070439Z

AND SPEAK OUT FOR WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE RIGHT AND TRUE. THE MURDERS OF THE KENNEDY BROTHERS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING DID NOT EVEN HAVE THE ALLEVIATING AIR OF BEING ACTS OF SENSELESS VIOLENCE. THERE IS SOMETHING HORRIBLY CALCULATED IN ALL THESE KILLINGS. UNQUOTE. WONDERING WHETHER AMERICA WILL BE ABLE TO RESIST TREND TOWARDS MORE VIOLENCE AND ASSERTING NEED FOR MORE BRAVE MEN TO AVERT IT. QUOTE JOHN AND ROBERT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING WERE BRAVE MEN. THEY HAD THE COURAGE OF THEIR BELIEFS, AND FOR THIS THEY WERE KILLED UNQUOTE. OTHER LEADERS QUOTE PUT THEIR HEADS ON THE EXECUTIONERS BLOCK, AND CAN ONLY PRAY THAT THE AXE WILL NOT FALL UNQUOTE. EDITORIAL ENDS DESCRIBING LOSS TO AMERICAN VOTERS. QUOTE HE HAS BEEN DENIED THE RIGHT TO SEE WHETHER HE COULD DO BETTER THAN THE MEN HE CRITICISED. MILLIONS WHO BELIEVED HE COULD, AND WOULD, HAVE BEEN DENIED THE RIGHT TO GIVE HIM THE OPPORTUNITY UNQUOTE. BLACKMAN

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INFO AF 09, NEA 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

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R 072202Z JUN 68
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2163
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AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ADEN
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5526

1. GOLDBERG, AT OWN INITIATIVE, MET WITH ENTIRE ARAB GROUP LATE JUNE 6. DRAWING ON DEPT'S JUNE 5 STATEMENT GOLDBERG REITERATED ON OFFICIAL AND PERSONAL BASIS THAT THERE ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT IS INVOLVED OR HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

2. IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREED MEETING SHOULD NOT BE PUBLICIZED NOR DISCUSSED WITH OTHER DELS.

GP-4.

GOLDBERG

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Department of State

Kennedy
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PAGE 01 BONN 13011 071800Z

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UNCLAS BONN 13011

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. THE DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY ECLIPSED ALL OTHER SUBJECTS IN THE GERMAN PRESS TODAY AND ON RADIO AND TELEVISION YESTERDAY. "THE WORLD MOURNS KENNEDY," WAS THE HEADLINE DOMINATING THIS MORNING'S FRONTPAGES. TIME DIFFERENTIAL DID NOT PERMIT THE PRESS TO REPORT SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH EARLIER.
2. SOME RADIO AND TELEVISION CORRESPONDENTS, REPORTING FROM LOS ANGELES, COULD HARDLY CONTROL THEIR EMOTIONS. GERD RUGE, FOR INSTANCE, FIRST CHANNEL'S U.S. BUREAU CHIEF, WAS SO OVERCOME THAT HE HAD TO STRUGGLE FOR NEARLY TEN MINUTES BEFORE HE COULD GET HIS VOICE UNDER CONTROL. RUGE NARRATED A HALF-HOUR, SPECIAL REVIEW OF THE CAREER OF SENATOR KENNEDY. SECOND CHANNEL ALSO PROGRAMMED A HALF HOUR KENNEDY MEMORIAL SHOW.
3. LOCALLY, TELCISON CONCENTRATED ON INTERVIEW WITH PROMINENT GERMANS COMMENTING ON THE SENATOR'S DEATH. SECOND CHANNEL CARRIED A STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR LODGE, COVERED THE LOWERING OF THE FLAG AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, AND PEOPLE SIGNING THE CONDELENCE BOOK, RADIO COVERAGE FOLLOWED SIMILAR LINES.
4. MOST OF THE PRESS WAS QUICK TO PICK UP PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S TELEVISION APPEAL TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO ABIDE BY THE RULE OF LAW. EDITORIAL OPINIONS FOLLOWED ALONG YESTERDAY'S LINES. MANY EDITORIALS SEEMED TO ASK QUESTIONS RATHER THAN EXPRESS OPINIONS. AND AGAIN THERE WERE UNDERTONES WHICH PUT INTO QUESTION AMERICA'S LEASERSHIP BECAUSE OF "INABILITY TO COPE WITH DOMESTIC PROBLEMS."
5. DUESSELDORF'S HANDELSBLATT, FOR INSTANCE, CONCENTRATED ON THE INTERNATIONAL EFFECT OF THE KENNEDY DEATH. THE PAPER THINKS THAT THE SENATOR'S DEATH IMPLIES FAILURE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

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AND ITS AUTHORITY. "...THIS IS A FACT OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE. AMERICA'S INTERNAL WEAKNESS AND LOSS OF PRESTIGE MIGHT PRODUCE AN IMPACT EVEN IN THE REMOTEST CORNERS OF THE GLOBE....THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS CONFRONTED WITH THE NECESSITY OF CONCENTRATING MORE THAN BEFORE ON ITS OWN COUNTRY. CONSEQUENTLY, EUROPE WILL HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON ITS PROBLEMS, WITH EUROPEAN COOPERATION BECOMING MORE IMPRTANT THAN EVER BEFORE."

HANDELSBALATT ALSO FEARS THAT THE KENNEDY ASSASINATION MIGHT HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE VIET NAM TALKS.

6. FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG VOICES SIMILAR APPREHENSIONS WHEN IT SAYS, "...AS LONG AS THE DOMESTIC AMERICAN SCENE REMAINS UNCLEAR THE PARIS NEGOTIATIONS WILL REMAIN DEADLOCKED WHILE FIGHTING IN VIET NAM WILL BE STEPPED UP. OF ALL POLITITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE KENNEDY SLAYING, THIS IS THE MOST UNFORTUNATE."

7. MUENCHNER MERKUR TAKES A MORE OPTIMISTIC VIEW. IT BELIEVES THAT THOUGH THE KENNEDYS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO ATTAIN THEIR GOALS, "...THEY HAVE MADE AN IMPACT ON MANKIND'S DREAM - ETERNAL PEACE."

8. RHEINISCHE POST WARNS OF OVERSIMPLIFICATION AND HASTY CONCLUSIONS DRAWN FROM THE KENNEDY TRAGEDY. "VIOLENCE," THE PAPER SAYS, "NO LONGER HAS EASILY RECOGNIZABLE ROOTS....IT PERVADES ALL GROUPS, NATIONS AND CLASSES, PROGRESSIVES AND REACTIONARIES...."

9. SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG FEELE THAT THE KENNEDY LEGACY WILL BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT'S MOST DIFFICULT TASK, NAMELY TO "RENEW IN THE NEGORES, THE POOR OF ALL COLORS, AND THE YOUNG....A FAITH IN THEIR COUNTRY AND A PRIDE IN CTS DEMOCTRATIC TRADITIONS...."

10. FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU'S MANAGING EDITOR ADMONISHES THE U.S. TO REEXAMINE ITS ENTIRE SOCIAL STRUCTURE. HE USES THIS OCCASION TO VIOCE HOSTILITY TO FREE ENTERPRISE AND WHAT HE FEELS IS ITS INCLUENCE OVER THE CONGRESS. "...WHAT KIND OF A CONTRY IS IT THAT UNTIL NOW COULD NOT PASS A LAW TO CONTROL THE POSSESSION OF ARMS? THE POWER OF THE BUSINESS LOBBIES AND OTHER INTERESTS IS TOO STRONG. THE IDOL OF FREE ENTERPRISE IS BECOMING A MONSTER WHICH IS THREATENING SOCIETY...."

11. DIE WELT'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT HEINZ BARTH WRITES THAT THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION HAS THROWN THE U.S. INTO A DEEP ABYSS OF NATIONAL CRISES. HE EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THIS WILL BE THE SIGNAL TO REVERSE THE TREND OF VIOLENCE.

12. STUTTGARTER EITUNG EMPHASIZES THAT THE REPLY TO VIOLENCE MUST NOT BE RESIGNATION OR APATHY, "INSTEAD, THE KENNEDY

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ASSASSINATION COMPELS THE FREE WORLD TO RETURN TO THE PRINCIPLES OF HUMANITY AND STRICT ADHERENCE TO LAW."

13. WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG COMPARES THE KENNEDY TRAGEDY WITH THE SHOOTING OF RUDI DUTSCHKE IN BERLIN TO SHOW THAT EXTREMIST EXCESSES CAN OCCUR ANYWHERE. THE PAPER EMPHATICALLY CALLS FOR A RETURN TO REASON AND ABSTENTION FROM VIOLENCE.

14. REJECTION AND CONDEMNATION OF VIOLENCE IS PROBABLY THE MOST COMMON REACTION THROUGHOUT GERMANY. THERE WAS A NOTICEABLE ATTEMPT TODAY NOT TO SINGLE OUT THE UNITED STATES, BUT RATHER TO POINT TO A GENERAL DETERIORATION IN WORLD MORALITY LEADING TO VIOLENCE. THE IDENTITY AND PRESUMED MOTIVE OF THE ASSASSIN WAS FAIRLY WIDELY COVERED IN TODAY'S PRESS.

15. MANY COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS MOURN KENNEDY'S DEATH. THE FLAG FLIES AT HALF FROM BONN'S CITY HALL. BERLINERS HAVE STAGED A SILENT TORCHLIGHT PARADE, AND MUNICH ORGANIZATIONS ARE PREPARING FOR A MARCH OF MOURNING DURING THE WEEKEND.
LODGE

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Pol 645 / Kennedy,
Robert F.
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R 070355Z JUNE 68
FM AMBASSADEUR TERENCE NSANZE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC

UNCLAS

SON EXCELLENCE M LE SECRETAIRE SETAT
PROFONDEMENT EMU PAR IGNOBLE ASSASSINAT SENATEUR
KENNEDY IMMINANT APOLOGUE DE LA PAIX ENTRE NATIONS ET COMPATRIOTE
AU NOM GOUVERNEMENT REPUBLIQUE DU BURUNDI JJADRESSE AU GOUVERNEMENT
DES ETATS-UNIS ET A FAMILLE ATTERREE MESSAGE VIVES CONDOLEANCES
CONSIDERANT CETTE PERTE LOURDEMENT RESSENTIE A TRAVERS GLOBE
EN VERTU SA REMARQUABLE DEVOTION A LA CAUSE DE L'HUMANITE.
STOP TRES HAUTE CONSITERATION.
AMBASSADEUR
TERENCE NSANZE

Burundi Embassy

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KENNEDY ROBERT F
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AIRGRAM

A-459

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

RS/R Jelle

FROM : Amembassy ALGIERS

DATE: June 7, 1968

SUBJECT : Algerian Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy

REF :

The Algerian press has fully reported the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Although banner headlines have not been used, ample coverage has appeared on inside pages. All the enclosed clippings appeared in the semi-official Algiers daily El Moudjahid.

Enclosure No. 1: Editorial entitled "Robert Kennedy and Zionism", which appeared on May 28th and helps to explain subsequent Algerian reaction to the assassination.

Enclosure No. 2: Report of the assassination attempt and editorial query why Los Angeles police claim Sirhan is an Arab after first saying he was Jamaican, then Cuban. (June 6, 1968).

Enclosure No. 3: Report of death from front page of El Moudjahid, (June 7, 1968).

Enclosure No. 4: Words of Arthur Schlesinger deploring American acts of motive, (June 7, 1968).

Enclosure No. 5: Full report on Senator's death, President Johnson's declaration, and information on Sirhan, (June 7, 1968).

Enclosures: 7

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Drafted by:

POL:FERondon/jt

6/7/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

CHARGE:LHoffacker

Clearances:

POL:FJGalanto; USIS:RHBertens

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Enclosure No. 6: Algerie Presse Service editorial: "Who armed the assassin?" (June 7, 1968).

Enclosure No. 7: Statement issued by Palestine liberation movement "El Feth" in Algiers, (June 7, 1968).

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Robert Kennedy et le sionisme

La campagne électorale bat son plein aux Etats-Unis. Les différents candidats à la Présidence font feu de tout bois pour gagner les bulletins du corps électoral américain.

Les uns axent leur propagande sur le Vietnam, d'autres sur le problème des Noirs. Robert Kennedy pour sa part, a fait acte de foi sioniste devant la communauté juive de Portland (Oregon).

Ressorlant le cliché éculé du mythe dépassé d'« Israël — petit pays pacifique » le candidat aux élections présidentielles de novembre a déclaré : « Nous nous sommes engagés à faire survivre Israël, nous devons maintenir la sécurité d'Israël contre toute agression extérieure, par les armes si c'est nécessaire ».

Point n'est besoin pour nous de souligner le caractère ridicule des affirmations du sénateur américain quant à « l'agression extérieure qui menacerait Israël. L'Histoire a démontré et notamment les événements depuis le 5 juin dernier, de quel côté se situe l'agression et le mépris des Nations unies. L'occupation de vastes portions de territoires, l'annexion de Jérusalem, la répression sanglante qui sévit contre des populations civiles ne sont pas, à ce qu'on sache, le fait des Arabes.

A moins que M. Kennedy ne soit mal informé ou aveugle pour ignorer des réalités connues de tous.

En vérité, il n'est ni l'un ni l'autre. Le sénateur n'exprime que l'opinion du « système américain » et confirme ainsi ce que nous avons toujours dénoncé ici à savoir qu'Israël n'est qu'une base de l'impérialisme au Moyen-Orient.

S'agissant du sionisme et de la lutte contre le mouvement de libération arabe, la « Sainte Alliance » se fait rapidement aux Etats-Unis. « Kennedy-le-Libéral » emboîte le pas à Johnson et fait lui aussi de la « sécurité d'Israël », son cheval de bataille.

Ces prises de position n'étonnent guère du reste les Arabes, pour qui l'extirpation du sionisme du Moyen-Orient reste le devoir le plus sacré, n'en déplaise à M. Kennedy et consorts.

ALGER, 6.1968
June 6, 1968

ROBERT KENNEDY VICARIE D'UN ATTENTAT A LOS ANGELES

« Etat extrême-
ment critique,
il pourrait bien
y rester »
disent
ses médecins
- 250 000 dollars
de caution pour
l'agresseur
Sirhan Sirhan



ROBERT Kennedy, frère du président assassiné, 43 ans, sénateur de l'état de New York, candidat de gauche aux élections présidentielles de novembre prochain a été l'objet hier matin à Los Angeles, d'un attentat. Le sénateur venait de terminer un discours où il annonçait sa victoire électorale en Californie.

Atteint de plusieurs balles, dont deux dans la tête, il a été immédiatement opéré. A l'heure où nous mettons sous presse, son état est jugé extrêmement critique par ses médecins. « Il a, disent-ils, une toute petite chance de s'en sortir. »

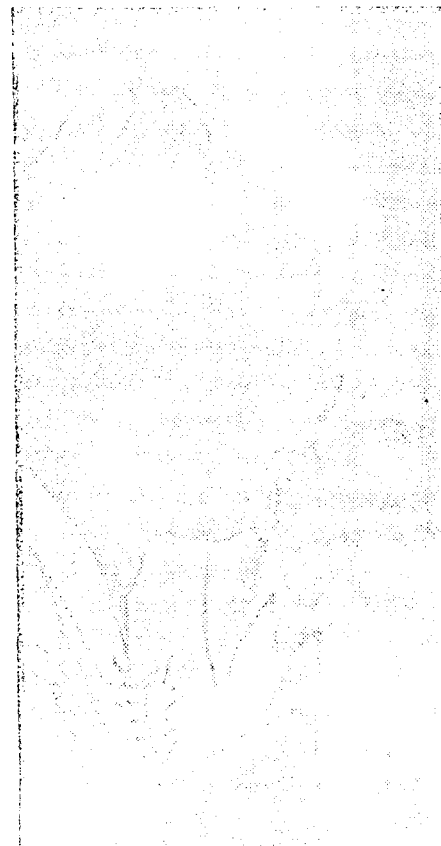
Son présumé agresseur, Sirhan Sirhan, âgé de 23 ans, est arrêté. Les autorités de Los Angeles après avoir dit qu'il s'agissait soit d'un Jamaïcain, soit d'un Cubain laissent maintenant entendre qu'il est d'origine arabe. On peut se poser des questions sur les véritables motifs de telles insinuations.

(Lire nos informations en page 6)

Algiers, El Moudjahid, 6.1968
ALGER, 6.1968

ROBERT KENNEDY A STICCOVIRIS A SES BLESSURES DIMANCHE, DEUIL NATIONAL AUX ETATS-UNIS

ROBERT Kennedy est mort hier matin à l'hôpital du Bon Samaritain de Los Angeles. Maintenant tous les regards se tournent vers l'homme accusé de cet assassinat, Sirhan Sirhan. Son interrogatoire se poursuit, mais sans succès car jusqu'à présent Sirhan Sirhan n'a pas parlé. Après les rumeurs répandues par les autorités de Californie sur une prétendue origine jordanienne de l'assassin, Amman a déclaré, par la voix de son Premier ministre qu'il n'existait aucun Jordanien de ce nom. Après la mort de Robert Kennedy on enregistre dans le monde de nombreuses réactions.



NOUS SOMMES MARQUES PAR LA VIOLENCE

LES Américains sont le peuple le plus effrayant de la planète », a déclaré, mercredi soir, M. Arthur Schlesinger, conseiller de l'ancien président Kennedy, puis de son frère Robert, au cours d'une allocution qu'il prononçait à l'occasion d'une remise de diplômes à 33 étudiants de City College, à New-York.

Emu au point d'en pleurer, M. Schlesinger a ajouté : « Depuis trois ans, nous tuons des gens de l'autre côté du monde. Nous avons déjà assassiné deux citoyens qui personifiaient l'idéalisme américain à l'étranger et hier nous avons tenté d'en assassiner un troisième. Ces actes de violence ne sont pas des accidents. Ils ont leur origine dans notre passé national ». « Ces actes, a poursuivi M. Schlesinger, ont commencé lorsque l'homme blanc s'est mis à assassiner les Indiens et à faire des esclaves de ceux qu'il considérait comme ses inférieurs à cause de la couleur de leur peau ». « Nous sommes marqués par notre société d'un droit inné à la violence qui apparaît dans le zèle que nous mettons à poursuivre une guerre irrationnelle au Vietnam qui suppose une poussée intérieure de haine et de violence », a conclu M. Schlesinger.

Après 24 heures d'agonie, Robert Kennedy succombe à ses blessures

DIMANCHE JOURNEE DE DEUIL AUX ETATS-UNIS

Robert Kennedy est mort hier matin à 1 h. 44 (heure de Los Angeles) soit 9 h. 03 GMT. Le sénateur n'avait pas repris connaissance depuis son transfert, moins de 24 heures avant à l'hôpital. Après une intervention chirurgicale qui a duré près de quatre heures, les bulletins de santé successifs publiés

dans la journée à l'hôpital du Bon Samaritain, n'indiquaient aucune amélioration. L'état du sénateur restait toujours extrêmement critique.

C'est M. Mankiewicz, son attaché de presse qui a annoncé la nouvelle de la mort de Robert Kennedy.

Quelques instants plus tard, ans et Robert Jr. 13 ans, se détails suivants : les trois aînés des dix enfants Kennedy Joseph, 16 ans, Kathleen 17 ans et Robert Jr. 13 ans, se trouvaient à l'hôpital au moment du décès, mais il n'a pu dire s'ils avaient vu leur père avant sa mort. La dépouille de M. Robert Kennedy devait être transportée dans la matinée de jeudi soit à Washington soit à New York. La Maison Blanche a été prévenue. M. Mankiewicz a encore précisé que la mort du sénateur avait été provoquée par la blessure reçue dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi et qu'il n'avait pas pu surmonter le traumatisme.

L'annonce faite par M. Mankiewicz n'a provoqué aucune surprise parmi les journalistes présents dans la salle de presse. Chacun savait en effet depuis la fin de l'après-midi, que tout espoir était perdu et que le sénateur était dans le coma. Il semble que ce soit entre 17 heures et 17 h. 30 (heure du Pacifique) que l'agonie se soit précipitée. En effet, M. Mankiewicz avait à 17 heures (locales) donné rendez-vous à la presse pour jeudi matin. Un peu plus tard, il leur avait conseillé de rester sur place dans l'attente d'une nouvelle annonce. Seul un public très clairsemé stationnait encore devant l'hôpital.

Dès l'annonce du décès, le président Lyndon Johnson adressait un message de condoléances à la famille du sénateur et déclarait que dimanche prochain, sera journée de deuil national ; à ce moment, sur tous les bâtiments publics, et les navires de la marine de guerre américaine, le pavillon étoilé était mis en berne pour y rester jusqu'après les funérailles du sénateur.

Celles-ci auront lieu à New York et à Washington ; la dépouille mortelle du sénateur sera transportée dans quelques heures par avion spécial, de Los Angeles à New York, où, après avoir été exposée pendant toute la journée de vendredi, une messe sera dite samedi matin à la cathédrale St. Patrick au cœur même de la Grande Métropole. Puis, par train, le corps du sénateur sera transporté à Washington, où il sera inhumé samedi dans la journée au cimetière national d'Arlington aux côtés de la dépouille du président John Kennedy qui y repose depuis sa mort.

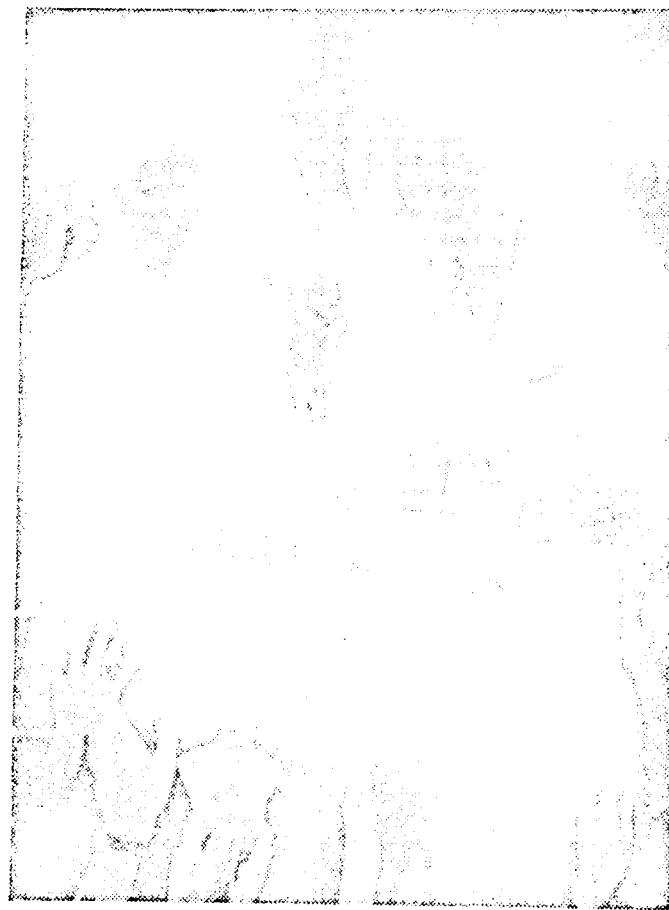
DECLARATION DU PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Peu après l'annonce de la mort du sénateur Kennedy, le président Johnson a fait la déclaration suivante :

« Nous connaissons à cette heure une perte et une heure tragiques. Le sénateur Robert F. Kennedy est mort.

« Robert Kennedy était une affirmation du pays — une affirmation de l'honnêteté intrinsèque du pays, de son désir de paix, de son désir de voir les conditions de vie s'améliorer pour tous.

« Au cours de sa vie, il a connu beaucoup plus que sa part de tragédie.



Robert Kennedy au cours d'un meeting électoral à New-York avec à ses côtés sa femme Ethel.

« Il n'a pourtant jamais abandonné sa foi en l'Amérique. Il n'a jamais perdu sa confiance dans la force spirituelle des hommes et des femmes.

« Il croyait en l'aptitude des jeunes à se parer et au droit des plus âgés et des pauvres à vivre dans la dignité.

« Sa perte amoindrit notre vie publique.

« Mme Johnson et moi-même exprimons notre profonde sympathie à Mme Kennedy et à sa famille.

« Je viens de signer une proclamation demandant à notre nation d'observer une journée de deuil pour Robert Kennedy. »

« Notre pays est malade », a déclaré dans la soirée de mercredi le président américain en lançant un appel au pays pour qu'il « renonce à la violence ». Il a annoncé la création d'une commission qui va « commencer immédiatement un examen des causes de cette tragédie » comme de tous les actes de violence qui ensanglantent le pays depuis l'assassinat de John Kennedy, il y a quatre ans et demi.

L'attentat commis contre le sénateur Kennedy, de même que l'assassinat du pasteur King, montre que « la violence peut abattre les meilleurs d'entre nous », a poursuivi M. Johnson.

« Nous ne pouvons tolérer la domination d'hommes violents parmi nous », a-t-il dit. « Nous ne pouvons tolérer

l'appel à la violence, quelle que soit sa cause », a-t-il ajouté, soulignant qu'un grand pays ne peut garantir la liberté des citoyens que « dans le respect de la loi ».

Le chef de l'Exécutif a demandé au Congrès d'adopter le plus rapidement possible des mesures législatives pour arrêter « le trafic insensé des armes » aux Etats-Unis. Il a enfin demandé à chaque Américain de commencer dès ce soir à faire preuve de modération et d'oublier la violence.

Le projet législatif de lutte contre la criminalité, prévoyant de sévères restrictions à la vente des armes à feu et des munitions, libre jusqu'à présent aux Etats-Unis, pourrait être débattu dès jeudi à la Chambre des représentants, estime-t-on à Washington.

En effet, la commission de procédure de la Chambre s'est prononcée, douze heures après l'attentat commis contre le sénateur Kennedy, pour l'ouverture de ce débat que le gouvernement réclamait depuis longtemps.

QUI EST SIRHAN ?

L'auteur de l'attentat contre le sénateur Robert Kennedy a été identifié mercredi au début d'après-midi. Il s'agit d'un nommé Sirhan Bechara Sirhan, né le 16 mars 1944 à Jérusalem, demeurant depuis peu à Pasadena, en Californie, avec l'un de ses frères dit « Joé », employé dans un grand magasin de Pasadena.

Au cours d'une conférence

de presse, le maire de Los Angeles, M. Samuel Yorty, et le chef de la police de la ville, M. Thomas Reddin, ont déclaré qu'ils avaient pu remonter la filière grâce aux empreintes digitales relevées sur l'arme de l'agresseur, un pistolet de calibre 22. L'arme portait d'autres empreintes, dont celles d'un autre frère de l'agresseur, prénommé Adel.

L'identification a été confirmée par les empreintes digitales du suspect prises à l'occasion d'une demande d'emploi qu'il avait faite auprès de la direction d'un champ de courses hippiques à Hollywood. Cette demande d'emploi avait été remplie il y a quelque temps alors que Sirhan était élève au collège John Muir de Pasadena.

Il a été transféré mercredi après-midi du quartier général de la police de Los Angeles à l'infirmerie de la prison du Comté, a indiqué un porte-parole de la police.

Sirhan Sirhan, y est soigné, a-t-il précisé, pour un doigt cassé et des contusions à une jambe.

Le porte-parole a refusé de dire si le prisonnier avait été blessé au cours de la lutte qui suivit immédiatement l'attentat, avant qu'il n'ait été maîtrisé par les gardes du corps du sénateur Kennedy, ou plus tard dans les locaux de la police.

M. Thomas Reddin, chef de la police de Los Angeles, a refusé mercredi soir, au cours d'une conférence de presse, de donner des détails sur les documents découverts plus tôt dans la journée au domicile de Sirhan Sirhan.

En refusant de donner des précisions sur la nature exacte de ces documents, M. Reddin a déclaré qu'à l'heure actuelle des révélations de ce genre ne pourraient que porter préjudice au déroulement du procès de l'accusé.

M. Reddin a répété aux journalistes que rien de concret pour l'instant ne permettait d'étayer la thèse d'une sinistre conspiration internationale dans cette affaire. Il a ajouté que l'accusé, autant que l'on sache, n'appartient pas à une organisation politique extrémiste.

Le chef de la police a donné quelques détails supplémentaires sur la famille de l'accusé :

Sirhan Sirhan est arrivé en 1957 aux Etats-Unis venant de Jérusalem avec son père, sa mère, une sœur qui est décédée depuis, et quatre frères. Le père dont le prénom n'est pas connu, a quitté la famille peu après son installation à Pasadena et a regagné ensuite que l'on sache Jérusalem où il résiderait actuellement.

Deux frères, Adel et Mounir, vivent encore avec leur mère à Pasadena. Les deux autres, Saïd Allah et Shami, ont quitté le domicile maternel et on ne sait pas où ils sont actuellement.

Seules cinq ou six personnes parmi lesquelles les deux frères, Adel et Mounir, se sont présentées à la police pour fournir des renseignements sur l'accusé, qui observe toujours un mutisme total.

QUI A ARME LA MAIN DE L'ASSASSIN ?

L'assassin du sénateur américain, Robert Kennedy, candidat aux prochaines élections présidentielles des Etats-Unis, a-t-il en commettant son acte agi de son propre chef, par « idéalisme » par besoin de publicité autour de sa personne, par « fanatisme » ou bien pour le seul désir de tuer ? Quelle est la véritable personnalité de Sirhan Sirhan, quelles sont ses idées vis-à-vis d'un problème politique donné comme celui par exemple du Moyen-Orient ? Le meurtrier n'aurait-il pas été armé intentionnellement par un tiers ? Dans l'affirmative, qui avait le plus intérêt à voir disparaître Robert Kennedy et pourquoi avait-il intérêt à ce qu'il disparaisse ? Autant de mystères, autant d'hypothèses à travers lesquels il est encore bien difficile de voir clair. On annonce déjà qu'il s'agit là d'un acte prétendument « isolé ». Va-t-il être dit une nouvelle fois que les raisons qui ont amené la mort de Robert Kennedy resteront dans l'ombre comme sont restées dans l'ombre celles intéressant la mort de son frère, le président John Kennedy et celle encore toute récente intéressant l'assassinat du Pasteur intégrationniste noir, Martin Luther King ?

Rien, si ce n'est le nom et l'origine de l'assassin n'a pour le moment filtré de l'enquête menée actuellement par la police autour de cette affaire. Cependant, plusieurs agences et radios étrangères certainement « bien intentionnées » ont commencé à émettre des suppositions les plus abracadabrantes quant aux raisons qui ont amené Sirhan à assassiner le sénateur Robert Kennedy. Certaines radios périphériques européennes dont l'attitude

anti-arabe au lendemain de l'agression sioniste du 5 juin n'est plus à démontrer, vont jusqu'à souligner la nationalité « arabe » de l'assassin, son « fanatisme arabe » tout cela avec bien entendu, un sens péjoratif des plus aigus. En les entendant, on serait tenté de dire qu'elles ne vont pas tarder à parler d'une véritable conspiration des Arabes contre un homme politique qui n'a jamais caché toutes les sympathies qu'il éprouvait pour l'Etat sioniste installé en territoire arabe occupé au détriment de toute autre considération.

N'est-ce pas éloigner le problème de son contexte purgément américain que de vouloir le rattacher intentionnellement ou non au problème du Moyen-Orient, à un moment justement où toute la Nation arabe se remémore douloureusement, la lâche agression sioniste du 5 juin 1967.

Des observateurs étrangers affirmaient déjà bien avant les résultats de l'enquête policière qu'il s'agissait là d'un crime politique.

« L'assassin, ont-ils dit, est un farouche nationaliste qui a voulu marquer par son acte le premier anniversaire du conflit arabo-sioniste de juin dernier, M. Kennedy ayant préconisé une livraison immédiate d'avions américains à l'Etat sioniste ».

Pourquoi Sirhan ne serait-il pas plutôt un tueur à gages à la solde des sionistes et qui aurait été armé par eux dans le seul but de discréditer aux yeux de l'opinion internationale les Arabes et provoquer une hystérie anti-arabe aux USA ? C'est là l'argument qui a été avancé par plusieurs observateurs arabes qui estiment que cet acte peut profiter aux sionistes. (APS)

AF
b
EL FETH

"Des manœuvres sionistes machiavéliques"

ALGER. — Après l'attentat qui a coûté la vie au sénateur Robert Kennedy, certaines agences de presse ont avancé que son auteur est un Arabe originaire de Jérusalem.

Devant la gravité de la situation et les moyens crapuleux dont use le sionisme pour dissimuler la vérité, le bureau d'Alger du mouvement de libération nationale palestinien « El-Feth » vient de rendre public la mise au point suivante :

« L'attentat qui coûta la vie au sénateur américain Kennedy après les déclarations qu'il a faites au cours de sa campagne électorale et relatives au problème palestinien, revêt pour nous une grande signification. C'est sans vergogne que le sionisme mondial commence à étaler ses moyens de propagande pour déformer la réalité quant au problème palestinien et à la Révolution palestinienne qui commence à jouir d'un grand soutien à travers le monde.

« A l'opinion publique internationale, nous disons que toutes les hypothèses avancées sur l'identité du criminel ne sont que des manœuvres machiavéliques sionistes.

« A l'opinion publique, nous disons que le mouvement de libération nationale palestinien « El-Feth », qui entreprend aujourd'hui l'un des plus nobles et durs combats contre l'ennemi sioniste en Palestine, condamne toute personne utilisant cette arme dans un pays étranger et contre un citoyen étranger pour des divergences politiques.

« Malgré l'oppression que con-

naît le peuple palestinien de la part des sionistes, notre mouvement a maintes fois affirmé sa décision de ne jamais employer de moyens de représailles contre les populations civiles de nos ennemis. Notre combat est un combat de libération et nos coups sont spécialement portés contre les hordes militaires sionistes qui occupent notre territoire.

« UN INSTRUMENT AUX MAINS DU SIONISME »

« Il y a quelques années, ajoute la déclaration, le président John Kennedy a été assassiné. Aujourd'hui c'est le tour de son frère Robert. Est-il possible qu'un seul individu puisse remplir à lui seul une mission aussi dangereuse que criminelle ? le problème est beaucoup plus complexe qu'on le pense.

« En ce qui nous concerne, nous considérons qu'en plus des échecs retentissants qu'elle a subis à l'extérieur, notamment en Europe, en Asie, en Amérique Latine, en Afrique, la politique américaine, loin de devenir saine, a eu les influences les plus néfastes sur la société américaine et les personnalités politiques américaines elles-mêmes.

« Pour nous, même Arabe, le criminel ne peut-être qu'un instrument aux mains du sionisme mondial, du capitalisme, de la Central Intelligence Agency pour la concrétisation des plus abjectes aspirations politiques.



59 *Col 6 US/Kennedy,*
Robert F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
44

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 926

PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 03969 072058Z

81
ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, NIC 01, EA 10, CU 04, HEW 07,
/104 W

R 072031Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5841

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 3969

REF: SANTIAGO'S 3929

1. NO FOREIGN EVENT SINCE ASSASSINATION PRESIDENT KENNEDY, INCLUDING DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, HAS MOVED PEOPLE OF CHILE AS MUCH AS ASSASSINATION SENATOR KENNEDY. STARTING WITH PRESIDENT FREI'S PUBLIC DECLARATION (SEE REFTEL) STREAM OF VISITORS, OFFICIAL, SEMI-OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL HAS FOUND ITS WAY TO EMBASSY, CONSULATE AND RESIDENCE TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES, CONSTERNATION AND SYMPATHY. THESE INCLUDE PRESIDENT FREI, FORMER PRESIDENT JORGE ALESSANDRI, ALMOST ALL CABINET MINISTERS AND NUMEROUS POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS. NOTABLE NON-FRAP EXCEPTION HAS BEEN RADICAL PARTY WHOSE LEADERS HAVE NOT APPEARED (SENATOR DURAN OUT OF COUNTRY).

2. SPOKESMEN FOR MARXIST LEFT HAVE PREDICTABLY SEIZED ON EVENT WITH COLD CYNICISM TO PRESS THEIR THESIS THAT AMERICAN NATION MORALLY CORRUPT BEYOND ALL SALVATION AND DESTINED FOR DISASTER. THEY CHARGE THAT SENATOR'S KILLER WAS SIMPLE TOOL OF POWERFUL RIGHTIST CLIQUE WHICH ALSO PLOTTED ASSASSINATIONS PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING. VIET NAM WAR, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND STUDENT UNREST LINKED TO ALLEGED WIDESPREAD USE OF DRUGS AND EMPHASIS ON SEX IN MATERIALISTIC DOLLAR CULTURE CITED AS EVIDENCE PROFUNDITY FISSIONS IN U.S. BODY POLITIC. EVEN DEMOCRATICALLY ORIENTED INDIVIDUALS HAVE NOT HESITATED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Santiago - 3969
6-7-68



Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SANTIA 03969 072058Z

MAKE LEAP FROM SENATOR'S TRAGIC DEATH TO VIRTUALLY WHOLE-SALE CONDEMNATION U.S. SOCIETY. MANY IN THIS CATEGORY ARE ESPECIALLY BITTER BECAUSE THEY CONSIDERED SENATOR "THEIR" CANDIDATE FOR U.S. PRESIDENCY AND UNIQUE IN HIS UNDERSTANDING

OF LATIN AMERICAN PROBLEMS AND NEEDS.

3. PDC DEPUTY BOSCO PARRA PERHAPS TYPIFIED LOCAL POLITICAL REACTION IN EXPRESSING VIEW THAT CRIME REFLECTS "EXISTENCE TENSIONS AND FRUSTRATIONS IN BOSOM NORTH-AMERICAN SOCIETY" ADDING "SOCIETY THAT BELIEVE IT HAS RESOLVED ALL ITS PROBLEMS BY HAVING MANAGED SURPASS CERTAIN LEVELS IN STANDARDS OF CONSUMPTION IS SICK SOCIETY."

4. DETAILED PRESS REACTION BEING SENT SEPARATELY.

KORRY

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 036

PAGE 01 070253Z

80

ACTION ARA 16

INFO FILE 01,SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,NSC 10,P 04,USIA 12,SSO 00,RSR 01,

RSC 01,7069 W

R 070230Z JUN 68
FM JULIA A RIVERA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC

UNCLAS

HIS EXCELLENCY DEAN RUSK, SECY OF STATE
DEPT OF STATE WASHDC

WITH THE GREATEST CONCERN AND ASTONISHMENT I RECEIVED THE NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT AGAINST THE LIFE OF SENATOR KENNEDY ALL MY PRAYERS WENT TO THE ALMIGHTY FOR HIS FULL RECOVERY. THE FATAL OUTCOME HAS FILLED ME WITH THE DEEPEST OF SORROWS. THE TRAGIC DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY CONSTITUTES AN IRRETRIEVABLE LOSS FOR THIS GREAT NATION AND FOR THOSE OF US THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO LOVE DEMOCRACY. I ALSO FEEL THAT THE VIOLENT PASSING OF SUCH AN OUTSTANDING PUBLIC FIGURE IS A MOST DESPICABLE ATTACK AGAINST DEMOCRACY

JULIO A RIVERA AMBASSADOR OF ELSALVADOR

73
El Salvador Embassy

1

UNCLASSIFIED

6



PO L 6 US/Kennedy,
Department of State Robert F.
TELEGRAM

2

UNCLASSIFIED 216

PAGE 01 070525Z

11
ACTION ARA 16

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, RSR 01, /068 W
.....

R 070354Z JUNE 68
FM AMBASSADOR SOL LINOWITZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC

UNCLAS

PLEASE ACCEPT ON BEHALF OF THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION TO THE
OAS THE DEEPEST EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY FOR THE TRAGIC DEATH
OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WHOSE MEMORY WILL REMAIN AS A MAGNIFICENT
SYMBOL FOR THE PACIFIC AND DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION IN LATIN AMERICA
VASCO MARIZ MINISTER REPRESENTATIVE AD INTERIM OF BRAZIL.

Brazil, Minister of

1

UNCLASSIFIED



POC 6 WS/KENNEDY
Department of State
ROBERT F.

TELEGRAM

7

UNCLASSIFIED 607

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01616 071026Z

20

ACTION EUR 20

INFO CPR 02,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,O 02,OPR 02,P 04,RSC 01,SS 20,SY 03,1

USIA 12,RSR 01,SSO 00,1083 W

P 070955Z JUN 68

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2593

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

UNCLAS BERLIN 1616

FOR GER

PLEASE ADVISE BRANDON GROVE, WHO LEFT HERE LAST EVENING TO
ATTEND ROBERT KENNEDY'S FUNERAL, THAT SENATOR SPANGENBERG
WILL BE COMING, BOTH TO REPRESENT BERLIN AND AS PART OF THE
OVERALL GERMAN REPRESENTATION. MORRIS

BERLIN
6-7 68
1616

UNCLASSIFIED

59 Tol 6 US/Kennedy Robert F. 107498

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

6 JUN 68 14 25z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy BEIRUT
" LONDON
" TEL AVIV
Amconsul JERUSALEM

USUN
JOINT STATE/USIA MESSAGE

STATE:

REF: AMMANJS 5202.

LIMDIS

DEPT concurs proposed response to press. For time being believe inadvisable go beyond proposed statement pending confirmation INS records. END

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

RUSK

Drafted by:

L/NEA:DAWehmeyer:eg

Tel. Ext.

5895

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

NEA - Mr. Rockwell

Clearances:

SCA - Miss Watson
VO - Mr. Owens
P - Mr. Phillips
USIA - Mr. Carter
NEA/ARN - Mr. Houghton
SY/PRS - Mr. Lynch

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

18



POL 6 45/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

UNCLASSIFIED 751

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 01826 062219Z

83

ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,RSR 01,070 W

R 062005Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2606

UNCLAS ASUNCION 1826

USIAC

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: ASUNCION 1821

JOINT USIS/STATE

1. LA TRIBUNA INDEPENDENT EDITERIALLY CALLED ROBERT KENNEDY CRUSADER FOR LIBERTY, DEFENDER OF DEMOCRACY WHO HAS FALLEN; STATED THIS IS GRAVE LOSS FOR AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL PRESTIGE, ADDING THAT "NO NATION CAN BE LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD WHERE GUNMEN, ACTING EITHER ON THEIR OWN OR CARRYING OUT PLOTS OF OTHERS, CAN END THE LIFE OF JUST REFORMERS AND PATRIOTS IN WHOM HUMANITY PLACES ITS CONFIDENCE." TRIBUNA ALSO REFERRED TO RECENT DISTURBANCE IN FRANCE, ITALY AND OTHER NATIONS OF OLD WORLD, ASKING, "WHO CAN DENY THAT THE STRINGS OF THESE INTRIGUES ARE BEING PULLED BY A POWER WHICH HOPES TO HARVEST RESULTS AT AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT?"

2. DAILY ABC INDEPENDENT SAID KENNEDY REPRESENTED THE MOST LUCID CONSCIENCE OF A NEW GENERATION OF MEN DISPOSED TO BREAK WITH OLIGARCHIC PRIVILEGE, RACIAL SEGREGATION AND ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION. IT SAID THAT LATIN AMERICA FOR THE SECOND TIME HAS BEEN FRUSTRATED IN ITS HOPE FOR A RADICAL CHANGE IN INTERNATIONAL POLICY.

3. ABC ALSO DECLARED AMERICANS LIVE IN AN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY WHERE MATERIAL VALUES STAND OUT MORE THAN MORAL ONES. "THEY

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Assessment 1121
6/6/68

RECEIVED BY RS/H



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ASUNCI 01826 062219Z

BUILD THEIR LIFE ON A BASE OF MATHEMATICAL CALCULATION, AN IMAGE WHICH, MOREOVER, THEY HAVE GIVEN US THROUGH THEIR FILMS, TELEVISION PROGRAMS AND THE PROPAGANDA DIRECTED BY THEIR PRESS OFFICES."

4. ABC ALSO ASKED HOW THE UNITED STATES COULD POSSIBLY CONVINCE LATIN AMERICANS OF ITS FRATERNAL SENTIMENTS WHEN IT DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE REAL DIMENSION OF LATIN AMERICAN PROBLEMS.

5. ITS CARTOON ON EDIT PAGE SHOWED STATUE OF LIBERTY WITH TORCH IN ONE HAND AND OTHER HAND HOLDING PISTOL, WITH TITLE, "WITHOUT WORDS."

6. COLORADO ORGAN PATRIA REFERRED TO VIOLENCE OCCURRING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE WORLD AND DECLARED "THE WAVE OF SAVAGERY MUST BE ENDED. DEMOCRACY MUST BE DEFENDED WITH SOMETHING MORE THAN WORDS." KARST

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18



Department of State

POL 6 45/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

TELEGRAM

45

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 353

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 01825 061957Z

92

ACTION H 22

INFO ARA 08, NEA 13, SS 20, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, SS0 00, RSR 01,

RSC 01, 073 W

P 061935Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2605
INFO USMISSION USUN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 1825

NOTE OF CONDOLENCE ON DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY RECEIVED
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER FROM ISRAELI AMB VARON LATE THIS
MORNING CONTAINED FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "I AM PROFOUNDLY
SHOCKED THAT HIS GALLANT STAND IN FAVOR OF MY COUNTRY
WAS, AS IT SEEMS, A FACTOR IN HIS ASSASSINATION."

HERNANDEZ

REPROFILMED BY RS/R

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Asuncion, Tel. 1825-
6/6/68

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Robert F.

B

6 JUN 68 14 09z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS
IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE

President Johnson has issued following statement and official
approximately 6:00 a.m. EDT
proclamation/on death of Senator Kennedy.

TEXT OF STATEMENT: QUOTE This is a time of tragedy and loss.

Senator Robert F. Kennedy is dead.

Robert Kennedy affirmed this country -- affirmed the essential
decency of its people, their longing for peace, their desire to
improve conditions of life for all.

During his life, he knew far more than his share of personal
tragedy.

Yet he never abandoned his faith in America. He never lost
his confidence in the spiritual strength of ordinary men and women.

He believed in the capacity of the young for excellence/and
in the right of the old and poor to a life of dignity.

Our public life is diminished by ~~xxx~~ his loss.

Mrs. Johnson and I extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy

Drafted by:

S/S:JWDav:sg:6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

5381

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/S - Benjamin H. Read

Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

E UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

and his family.

I have issued a proclamation calling upon our nation to observe a day of mourning for Robert Kennedy. END QUOTE

TEXT OF PROCLAMATION: QUOTE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES:

A noble and compassionate leader, a good and faithful servant of the people, in the full vigor of his promise, lies dead from an assassin's bullet.

The tragedy and the senseless violence of Robert F. Kennedy's death casts a deep shadow of grief across America and across the world.

This is a moment for all Americans to join hands and walk together through this dark night of common anguish into a new dawn of healing unity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States, do call upon all Americans to observe Sunday next, the ninth day of June, as a day of national mourning in his memory throughout the United States. In our churches, in our homes, and our in ~~the~~/hearts ~~to~~ let us resolve before God and before each other that the purpose of progress and justice for which Robert F. Kennedy lived shall endure.

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I direct that until interment the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff on all buildings, grounds and naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions.

I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time ~~XX~~ at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second. ~~XXX~~ LYNDON B. JOHNSON END QUOTE

END

RUSK

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

52

POL 6 - 215 / Kennedy, Robert F.
X R POL 15-6 215

177462

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

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FOR OC/T USE ONLY
177462

6 JUN 68 11 14

Origin

ACTION: ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS FLASH

Info:

STATE

of March 3, 1954

In accordance with Presidential proclamation 3044/all

US flags on official installations will be flown at
half staff beginning immediately and through June 7 in
honor of Senator Robert F. Kennedy who died at 0844Z
today.

End

2

RUSK

Drafted by:

S/S-O:RDuBose

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

S/S-O:CAgendreau

Clearances:

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Unclassified if detached
from attachment(s)

W-36

TO : S/S - J. W. Davis
Rm. 7241, Ext. 5836

DATE: June 21, 1968

FROM : L - Marjorie M. Whiteman *MMW*
Rm. 6419 NS, Ext. 2280

SUBJECT: Request for declassification of paper(s) pursuant to
FAM Vol. 5, 966.4 and 966.4-1, for Whiteman
Digest of International Law

It is desired to have the attached paper(s) declassified
to UNCLASSIFIED so excerpts may be quoted or paraphrases used,
and the paper cited as reference in the Digest.

If you perceive no objection, please declassify by com-
pleting the CLASSIFICATION CHANGED stamped on the document.

Please return the paper to me when you have completed
action, Room 6419 NS.

Attachment(s):

1. Circular Telegram 177570 to All Dip. and Consular Posts
dated 6-6-68 (LOU)
2. Circular Telegram 177492 to All Dip. and Consular Posts
dated 6-6-68 (Unclassified)

L:MWhiteman:1ml

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

Unclassified if detached from
attachment(s)

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



52

100-36

PO L 6 215 / Kennedy,
177570
Robert F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED **UNCLASSIFIED**
Classification

6 JUN 68 16 38

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

177570

Origin

ACTION: ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS
IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE _____

REF: STATE 177492

President's proclamation will be interpreted to mean that
flags remain at half-staff through day of national mourning,
Sunday, June 7.

①

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED	
TO	UNCLASSIFIED
BY AUTHORITY OF	S/S
DATE	6-27-68
BY	<i>D. W. Davis</i> J.W. Davis
	S/S

RUSK

RECEIVED

BY

Drafted by:

S/S: JWDavis:hbb

6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

7741

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/S : Benjamin H. Read

Clearances:

WH - Mr. Smith

LIMITED **UNCLASSIFIED** USE
Classification

53

Pol 6 215 / Kennedy, Robert F.
107461

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

① UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

FOR OC/T USE ONLY
197461
6 JUN 68 11 07Z

Origin
Info:

ACTION: ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS FLASH
STATE

In connection with the death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy
at 0844Z today Department will provide as soon as possible
pertinent details regarding funeral and guidance regarding
foreign representation. ~~Also info regarding period of~~
~~mourning and flying flags follows - secret.~~
end

②

RUSK

UNCLASSIFIED

Drafted by: S/S-O:RDuBose	Tel. Ext.	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: S/S-O:CA Gendreau
Clearances: S/CPR - Mr. Abel		

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Classification

(18)



POL 6 US/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

47

UNCLASSIFIED 403

PAGE 01 ASUNCI 01821 062048Z

83

ACTION ARA 16

INFO CPR 02,SS 20,NSC 10,P 04,USIA 12,H 02,RSR 01,RSC 01,/068 W

P 061820Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2602

UNCLAS ASUNCION 1821

1. PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS WHO CALLED ON ME THIS MORNING TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES FOR DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY INCLUDED PRES STROESSNER, FONMIN SAPENA PASTOR, PRES SUPREME COURT SANCHEZ QUELL, PRES SENATESBRVES, AND INTERIOR MINISTER MONTANARO. STROESSNER GESTURE NOTEWORTHY, SINCE TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS FIRST TIME HE HAS VISITED EMB CHANCERY.

2. USIS REPORTING PRESS AND PUBLIC REACTION SEPARATELY.

#34, - , \$3Z

*Asuncion, Tel. 1821
6/6/68*

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

UNCLASSIFIED



Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert 7.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

46

CONFIDENTIAL 226

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01154 060955Z

42
ACTION NEA 15

INFO GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, IO 13, SY 03, P 04, USIA 12, L 03,
H 02, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, SCA 02, VO 02, FBI 01, INS 03, OC 06,
CCO 00, SSO 00, RSR 01, /111 W

P 060920Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1699

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1154

SUBJECT: KENNEDY SHOOTING

REF: STATE 176785

1. NO KUWAITI NATIONALS CURRENTLY IN U.S.
WHO WOULD NEED SPECIAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS.
2. CHECK EMBASSY (INCLUDING CAS) FILES REVEALS
NO TRACE SUSPECT OR ANYONE OF THAT FAMILY NAME.
3. EMBASSY ISSUED B-2 VISA APRIL 22, 1968 TO
GOK MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER EMPLOYEE
FAYES KAMEL ABDUL HAMID, HOLDER OF JORDANIAN
PASSPORT NO. [REDACTED]. ABDUL HAMID LISTS PLACE
OF BIRTH AS SILWAN, WHICH AP REPORTS TO BE
BIRTHPLACE SUSPECT. ABDUL HAMID INDICATED IN
VISA APPLICATION HE VISITING U.S. AS TOURIST
FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO MONTHS. HE GAVE AS U.S.
REFERENCE SHAMLAN AL-ESSA, KUWAIT EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON.
4. EMBASSY HAS YET NOTED NO STRONG LOCAL
REACTION TO FACT SUSPECT OF ARABIC ORIGIN,
ALTHOUGH UNDERSECRETARY TELEPHONED ONLY HALF OF
THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO EXPRESS HIS
REGRET NOT ONLY AT SHOOTING, BUT ALSO AT
ARAB CONNECTION. SECURITY SITUATION CALM.

① COTTAM

CONFIDENTIAL

*Kuwait 1154
6/6/68*

75



POL 6 US/KENNEDY,
 ROBERT F.
 Department of State
TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

855

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01615 070109Z

81

ACTION EUR 20

INFO RSR 01, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, NIC 01, EA 10, NEA 13, /098 W

R 061655Z JUN 68

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2592

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1615

JOINT MISSION/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: BERLIN REACTION TO DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY

1. THE ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY AND HIS SUBSEQUENT DEATH HAVE DOMINATED THE ATTENTION OF BERLINERS TO AN EXTENT NOT EQUALLED SINCE THE TRAGIC DEATH OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY IN 1963. ALL BERLIN DAILIES FRONT PAGED THE NEWS OF HIS ATTACK (NEWS OF HIS DEATH CAME TOO LATE TO MAKE THE MORNING PAPERS) AND GAVE EXTENSIVE AND DETAILED COVERAGE OF THE DAY'S EVENTS. EDITORIALS, APPEARING IN ALL PAPERS, REFLECTED THE DEEP SHOCK AND CONCERN FELT BY MOST BERLINERS FOR A MAN CONSIDERED TO BE A CLOSE FRIEND OF THE CITY. MOST EDITORIALS COMBINED TRIBUTES TO SENATOR KENNEDY WITH EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER THE INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE WAKE OF THE RECURRING VIOLENCE IN THE US. (PRESS ROUNDUP SENT USINFO)

2. GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ, AWAY ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO ISRAEL, SENT A TELEGRAM JUNE 5 TO THE US COMMANDANT IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED HIS AND ALL BERLINERS' "DEEP SHOCK" AT THE NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE. HE SAID THAT "BERLIN IS IN UNISON WITH THOSE WHO CONDEMN THIS APPLICATION OF FORCE" AND CLOSED WITH A WISH FOR SENATOR KENNEDY'S RECOVERY.

3. IN A TELEGRAM TO MRS. KENNEDY, SENT BY MAYOR NEUBAUER UPON THE NEWS OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH, HE REFERRED TO THE CLOSE CONNECTION THAT SENATOR KENNEDY AND HIS BROTHER HAD HAD WITH

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01615 070109Z

BERLIN AND EXPRESSED "DEEP SYMPATHY" TO MRS. KENNEDY, IN "HIS OWN NAME, ON BEHALF OF THE SENAT, AND IN THE NAME OF ALL BERLINERS."

4. THE RING POLITISCHER JUGEND, A ROOF STUDENT ORGANIZATION COMPRISED OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OF ALL POLITICAL COMPLEXIONS, IS SPONSORING A "SILENT MARCH" TONIGHT FROM DOWNTOWN BERLIN TO THE JOHN F. KENNEDY PLATZ IN FRONT OF THE RATHAUS SCHOENEBOURG. MAYOR NEUBAUER AND OTHER SENAT OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS MISSION OFFICERS, PLAN TO BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE JOHN F. KENNEDY PLATZ.

5. ALL EAST GERMAN INFORMATION MEDIA HAVE GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO THE SHOOTING AND DEATH OF SENATOR KENNEDY, LOSING NO TIME IN CLAIMING THAT IT WAS THE RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY BY THE SAME "CIRCLES" WHO ORDERED THE "MURDER" OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING. THE LEAD EDITORIAL IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF JUNE 6, UNDER THE HEADLINE "MURDER AS A SYSTEM," SAID THE LATEST SHOOTING WAS JUST ANOTHER LINK IN THE CHAIN OF GRUESOME ACTS OF FORCE WITH WHICH "CIVIL, DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS" ARE TO BE SUPPRESSED AND THE US IS TO BE PUSHED TOWARD A "FASCIST DICTATORSHIP." THE PRACTICES OF US "KILLERS" IN VIETNAM ("PLANNED, SYSTEMATIC, AND COLD-BLOODED EXTERMINATION OF PEOPLE") HAVE BECOME ONE OF THE PRIME METHODS USED IN DOMESTIC POLITICS IN THE US. ACCORDING TO THE EDITORIAL, PRESIDENT JOHNSON HAD PERSONALLY ASSUMED THE COORDINATION OF THE ENTIRE ANTI-KENNEDY CAMPAIGNING AT THE BEHEST OF THE "ARMAMENT MONOPOLIES." BECAUSE KENNEDY OPPOSED THE PRESIDENT'S VIETNAM POLICY AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, HE WAS SHOT WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT HE WAS WINNING THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTIONS. ADN SAID THOSE BEHIND THE SHOOTING FEARED EXPOSURE IN A NEW INVESTIGATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S DEATH SHOULD SENATOR KENNEDY BECOME PRESIDENT. ADN REPORTED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE ATTACKER AS A JORDANIAN, BUT ALSO THE DISCLAIMER OF ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SIRHAN BY THE JORDANIAN EMBASSY IN THE US.

DECON 6/6/69. MORRIS

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
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Algeria 1742
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PAGE 01 ALGIER 01742 061012Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, RSR 01, /067 W

P 060925Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3283

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1742

REF: STATE 176785

1. THERE NO OFFICIAL REACTION AS YET TO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST SENATOR KENNEDY. FONOFF OFFICIAL WITH WHOM WE DINED LAST EVENING SUMMARIZED ALGERIAN REACTION AS ONE OF SYMPATHY. EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY FROM INDIVIDUAL ALGERIANS HAVE BEEN SPARSE IN CONTRAST TO THOSE OF DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES WHO ARE SHAKEN AND GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC.

2. RADIO AND PRESS HAVE BEEN RESTRAINED IN REACTION TO EVENT. ARAB ORIGIN OF PRESUMED ASSASSIN IS REPORTED IN MOUDJAHID WITH SNIDE SKEPTICISM. APS EDITORIAL MATERIAL WHICH COULD HAVE MADE MOUDJAHID DEADLINE AND WHICH SPOKE OF ROTTEN AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE WAS NOT RPT NOT CARRIED IN PAPER. MOUDJAHID HOWEVER CARRIES CARTOON CRITICAL OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY IN CONNECTION WITH ASSASSINATIONS OF KENNEDY AND KING AND ATTEMPT AGAINST SENATOR'S LIFE.

3. DO NOT RPT NOT ANTICIPATE SECURITY PROBLEM IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

GP-3 HOFFACKER

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
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PAGE 0 KIGALI 1616 061354Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, GPM 04, L 03, H 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

P 04, RSC 01, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, /099 W

R 060950Z JUNE 68
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 825
INFO USIA

UNCLAS KIGALI 1616

REF: KIGALI 1612

1. RADIO RWANDA EVENING NEWSCAST JUNE 5 DEVOTED LARGELY TO REPORTING DEVELOPMENTS KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WITH NO COMMENTARY. AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE (AFP) CORRESPONDENT IN US GAVE REPORT ON RADIO RWANDA WITH EMPHASIS ON RISING CRIME AND LAWLESSNESS IN US IN RECENT YEARS.

2. UN RESIDENT REP JERKOVIC AND NEWLY ARRIVED BELGIAN CHARGE LEBRUN CALLED YESTERDAY WITH EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.
KINSEY

Kigali 1616
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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, IO 13, O 02, OPR 02, OC 06

CCO 00, SSO 00, /119 W

R 061326Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL DHAKRAH
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 4300

REF: STATE 167685 - nC

1. RE PARA 2 REFTEL, SECURITY PRECAUTIONS INSTITUTED. SAUDIS HAD ALREADY INCREASED NATIONAL GUARD PATROL INSIDE AND AROUND PERIMETER OF EMBASSY COMPOUND EVENING JUNE 4, MAINLY IN RECOGNITION FOLLOWING DAY WOULD BE ANNIVERSARY OF LAST YEAR'S HOSTILITIES. DESPITE EXTENSIVE EDITORIALIZING JUNE 5 ABOUT EVENTS OF JUNE 1967, WE HAVE EXPERIENCED NO OVERT EXPRESSION OF PUBLIC RESENTMENT OR HOSTILITY.

2. SAUDI REACTION TO SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY, WHICH BECAME KNOWN HERE ON JUNE 5, HAS BEEN SUBMERGED IN GENERAL PUBLIC AND OFFICIAL FOCUS ON ANNIVERSARY OF LAST YEAR'S HOSTILITIES AND CONTINUED ARAB HUMILIATION AT THEIR DEFEAT. IDENTITY OF PERSON SUSPECTED OF KENNEDY SHOOTING FIRST BECAME KNOWN JIDDA EVENING JUNE 5. IT IS NOW GENERAL KNOWLEDGE, AS DETAILED INFO FROM WIRELESS SERVICES PUBLISHED THIS MORNING'S PAPERS. THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO SAUDI PRESS OR RADIO EDITORIALIZING ON SUBJECT, WHICH

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
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ACTION NEA 15

INFO NSCE 00,SAH 03,SAL 01,CPR 02,SSO 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,

INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,RSR 01,/075 W

O 061437Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3986

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 4007

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JOINT USIS/EMBASSY

FOR IOP/GM, IRS, IPS

1. 1. IN AN EDITORIAL ON KENNEDY'S MURDER, YEDIOT AHARONOT WRITES: QUOTE IT SEEMS INCREASINGLY EVIDENT...THAT THIS TIME WE ARE DEALING NOT WITH ASSAULT MADE AGAINST BACKGROUND OF INTERNAL RELATIONS IN AMERICA BUT WITH WHAT MAY BE TERMED MURDER THAT WAS BROUGHT THERE AS INNER QUOTE IMPORTED MERCHANDISE INNER UNQUOTE, THAT IS TO SAY FROM ARAB WORLD WHERE MURDER IS ACCEPTED WEAPON... THUS, ASSAULT ON LIFE OF ROBERT KENNEDY IS NOT AMERICAN PHENOMENON BUT IS IN ITS ENTIRETY FOREIGN MERCHANDISE, NOT LOCAL. IT IS ARAB MERCHANDISE, INTENDED, APPARENTLY, TO BREAK THROUGH BORDERS AND ATTACK ITS AMERICAN BENEFACTORS WHICH GOEFESORDE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS STERN GANG.) QUOTE

IT NOT UNLIKELY THAT SIMILARLY TO LEHI, PALESTINIAN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHED BRANCHES IN COUNTRIES ABROAD, WITH AIM OF HURTING POLITICIANS WHO SUPPORT ISRAEL.

3. WHEN PALESTINIAN LEADERS IN EXILE IN LEBANON DISCUSSED MATTER ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, I.E. WHAT CHARACTER PALESTINIAN TERROR ORGANIZATION SHOULD HAVE, IT WAS PROPOSED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO ESTABLISH ORGANIZATIONS INNER QUOTE IN STYLE TO ETZEL AND LEHI INNER UNQUOTE -- (IRGUNZVAI LEUMI AND LOHAMAY HERUT ISRAEL). THIS REPORTED IN NUMBER OF BEIRUT PAPERS AT

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04007 061559Z

TIME, WHICH EXPRESSED OPINION OF PERSONAGES (PALESTINIANS) IN CONNECTION WITH NATURE OF ARAB GUERILLA WARFARE. BEIRUT PAPERS WROTE AT TIME THAT INNER QUOTE ARABS OUGHT TO ACT IN CONNECTION WITH GUERILLA WARFARE AS ISRAEL DID BEFORE STATE OF ISRAEL ESTABLISHED, I.E. TO ACT LIKE ISRAELI UNDERGROUND ORGANIZATIONS DID, WHEN OFFICIAL ISRAELI BODIES DISSOCIATED THEMSELVES FROM THOSE ORGANIZATIONS. INNER UNQUOTE

4. IT MAY BE EXPECTED THAT US INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WILL CONTACT ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WITH REQUEST TO HELP THEM IN INVESTIGATION INTO BACKGROUND OF ASSASSINATION. UNQUOTE

5. MAARIV (INDEPENDENT) EDITORIALIZES: QUOTE BULLET SHOT AT SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY BY ARAB ASSAILANT DID NOT ONLY PENETRATE KENNEDY'S HEAD BUT ALSO THE HEART OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY... THIS MALICIOUS ASSAULT ON INNER QUOTE BOBBY INNER UNQUOTE, SHORTLY AFTER HE HAD ANNOUNCED TO MASSES OF SUPPORTERS HIS VICTORY IN CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES, REVEALS ONE OF MOST SEVERE PLAGUES THAT HAS BEEN SPREADING THROUGH AMERICAN SOCIETY DURING PAST SEVERAL YEARS: PLAGUE OF VIOLENCE... ANOTHER NO LESS TRAGIC ASPECT OF INCIDENT IS FACT THAT ASSAILANT IS JORDANIAN ARAB AND THAT MURDER ATTEMPT WAS CARRIED OUT ON JUNE 5... RESPONSIBILITY FOR MURDER ATTEMPT EXECUTED BY THAT YOUNG INCITED ARAB IN CALIFORNIA MUST REST ON SHOULDERS OF UNRESTRAINED INSTIGATION OF ARAB LEADERS AND ARAB PROPAGANDA AND BOYCOTT AGENCIES WHOSE CENTER IS IN CAIRO, DAMASCUS AND AMMAN, BUT WHOSE INFLUENCE STRETCHES FROM BONN TO LOS ANGELES AND PARIS TO BUENOS AIRES. IF WORLD CONTINUES TO REACT FORGIVINGLY TO THIS ARAB INCITEMENT CAMPAIGN - WHICH ADOPTS VARIOUS GUISES, DEPENDING ON TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES - ROBERT KENNEDY WILL NOT BE ITS LAST VICTIM. UNQUOTE. GILDNER

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F
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46 43
ACTION P 04

INFO CIAE 00,DCDE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,RSC 01,
SP 02,SS 20,CCO 00,CPR 02,SSO 00,NSCE 00,RSR 01, /056 W

O 061500Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC 3987

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 4008

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JOINT USIS/EMBASSY

FOR IOP/GM, IBS, IPS

ISRAELI AFTERNOON PRESS REVIEW, JUNE 6

1. MAARIV (INDEPENDENT) SECOND EDITION FRONTPAGES ITEM UNDER
HEADING: QUOTE FATHER OF KENNEDY ASSAILANT, RESIDENT OF
TAEIBELH VILLAGE NEAR RAMALLA SAYS: INNER QUOTE I WAS HORRIFIED
WHEN I HEARD WHAT MY SON DID. INNER UNQUOTE ONLY THIS MORNING
FATHER LEARNED THAT HIS SON SHOT SENATOR KENNEDY. INNER QUOTE
HE WAS EXCELLENT STUDENT AND HIS TEACHERS ALWAYS PRAISED HIM.
I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED. INNER UNQUOTE UNQUOTE.

2. QUOTE INNER QUOTE I AM HORRIFIED MY SON'S ACTION, INNER
UNQUOTE I WAS TOLD THIS MORNING BY BASHARA SALAMA SIRHAN, 52,
FROM TAIEBELH VILLAGE NEAR RAMALLA, WHO IS FATHER OF YOUNG MAN
WHO SHOT SENATOR KENNEDY. FATHER, LOOKED HORRIFIED BY SON'S
DEED. FROM WHAT HE SAID IT SEEMED HE LEARNED OF HIS SON'S
INVOLVEMENT IN INCIDENT ONLY THIS MORNING WHEN HE LISTENED TO
NEWSCAST OVER AMMAN RADIO. WHEN HE HEARD HIS SON'S NAME HE
COULD NOT AT FIRST BELIEVE IT - LATER HE WAS CONVINCED WHEN
VILLAGE CHIEF (MAKHTAR) AND ISRAELI SECURITY MEN CAME TO HIM
THIS MORNING. UNTIL 1957 BASHARA LIVED IN WADI JOZ IN EAST
JERUSALEM. DURING BRITISH MANDATE HE WAS CHIEF INSPECTOR IN
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN CHARGE OF LAYING WATER PIPE-LINE

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04008 061552Z

FROM ROSH-HA'AYIN TO JERUSALEM... IN 1957 BASHARA'S FINANCIAL SITUATION WORSENERD AND HE DECIDED TO GO TO US. THREE YEARS LATER, FAILING TO GET USED TO LIFE IN AMERICAN, HE RETURNED TO HIS HOME WHILE HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN REMAINED THERE. THIS MORNING FATHER SAID FOLLOWING ABOUT SON: INNER QUOTE HE WAS EXCELLENT STUDENT AND KEPT WELL AWAY FROM STREET URCHINS. INNER UNQUOTE ACCORDING TO HIM HIS SON'S TEACHERS WERE FULL OF PRAISE FOR HIS INTELLIGENCE AND IDLLIGENCE IN HIS STUDIES. SAID HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND INNER QUOTE HOW HIS SON HAD DEGENERATED TO SUCH A SITUATION IN WHICH HE MADE ASSAULT ON LIFE OF KENNEDY... I AM EXTREMELY SORRY... IT IS TRAGEDY I CANNOT FIND WORDS TO EXPRESS. I STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT CAUSED MY SON TO COMMIT THIS HORRIFYING ACT. I HEARD ABOUT KENNEDY FAMILY WHEN I WAS IN US AND AFTERWARDS. I HONOR AND RESPECT THAT FAMILY, ESPECIALLY LATE PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY WHO, DURING HIS PRESIDENCY, TRIED TO LEAD HUMANITY TO PEACE AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY. INNER UNQUOTE UNQUOTE. GILDNER

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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PAGE 01 AMMAN 05221 061620Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO SY 03, FBI 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, AID 28, RSR 01, /126 W

R 061425Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0708

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5221

REF STATE 176785

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. RE SECOND SENTENCE PARA 2 REFTEL EMBASSY HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY JORDANIANS PRESENTLY IN US FOR WHOM IT RECOMMENDS SPECIAL SECURITY PRECAUTIONS. HOWEVER, FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION FOLLOWING PROMINENT JORDANIANS ARE IN US ON USAID PROGRAMS. THEIR PRECISE LOCATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM AID/W. DR. MUHAMMAD NURI SHAFIQ - ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR TO PRIME MINISTER, DR. TAWFIK JERIES KARADSHEH - ASSISTANT UNDERSECRETARY MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LT. COL. DIAB YOUSEF OTHMAN, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF POLICE, AMMAN.

2. IN ADDITION THERE ARE IN THE US ON MAP TRAINING PROGRAMS THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL ALL BELOW THE RANK OF LT. COLONEL. THEIR LOCATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DOD. ROYAL JORDANIAN AIR FORCE: 16 CADETS AND ONE (1) OFFICER; JORDAN ARAB ARMY: 23 OFFICERS AND 1 (ONE) ENLISTED MAN.
SYMME

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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PAGE 01 KAMPAL 02286 061406Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, NSC 10, H 02, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, RSR 01, RSC 01, /067 W
R 061300Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2843

Kampala 2286
6-6-68

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REF: STATE 176747 ✓

EDITORIAL AND NEWSPAPER REACTIO TO ASSASSINATION SENATOR KENNEDY
IS BEING REPORTED TO DEPT IN USINFO TELS SLUGGED "PASS AFE".
UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED WE WILL NOT DUPLICATE THIS REPORTING
BY SEPARATE TELS TO DEPT. EMB WILL SUPPLEMENT THESE REPORTS
WITH OWN REPORTS AS NECESSARY. DECON 6/6/69. STEBBINS

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63 Pol 645/Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 09871 061308Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SS 20, GPM 04, H 02, P 04, USIE 00, CIAE 00, INR 07,
NSAE 00, RSC 01, RSR 01, NSC 10, /092 W

R 061206Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5316
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN

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JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: STATE 176785

1. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT BANNER HEADLINE IN ALL LEBANESE NEWSPAPERS WITH MOST PAPERS HEADLINING ASSAILANT'S IDENTITY AS "ARAB FROM JERUSALEM." SEVERAL PAPERS FEATURED HIS ALLEGED "I DID IT FOR MY COUNTRY" STATEMENT. NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT MADE BY GOL BUT INDIVIDUAL OFFICIALS HAVE TELEPHONED THEIR SHOCK AND DISTRESS AT NEWS. ATTACK DEEPLY FELT OWING WIDE POPULARITY OF KENNEDY FAMILY AMONG LEBANESE, ESPECIALLY CHRISTIANS. PRIVATE SPECULATION RE MOTIVATION OF ATTACK INCREASED WHEN NEWS SPREAD THAT HE PALESTINIAN, WHO ARE BLAMED FOR MUCH OF TROUBLE IN NEAR EAST.

2. EDITORIALS UNIVERSALLY DEPLORED ATTACK, WITH SOME MERELY EXPRESSING SHOCK AND CONDEMNATION WHILE OTHERS CONCENTRATED ON POSSIBLE POLITICAL MOTIVES OR REPERCUSSIONS. DEVIOUS REASONING, WHICH HAS ALSO CROPPED UP IN PRIVATE COMMENT, SUGGESTED POSSIBLE ZIONIST PLOT TO NEGATE RECENT GROWTH IN UNDERSTANDING OF ARAB CAUSE IN US. ANOTHER THEME IN EDITORIALS IS THAT ASSASSIN IS "NOT AN ARAB" IN

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 09871 061308Z

SENSE THAT HE IS EITHER PAID AGENT OF ZIONISTS OR THAT HE IN FACT STRUCK CRIPPLING BLOW TO ARAB INTERESTS. SEVERAL EDITORIALS COMMENTED THAT ATTACK ON KENNEDY WAS INDICATION THAT US SUFFERING REPERCUSSIONS OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY. SOME POINTED OUT THAT KENNEDY UNJUSTLY SINGLED OUT SINCE HE IN FACT NO MORE PRO-ISRAELI THAN OTHER CANDIDATES. SEVERAL LEFTIST PAPERS CARRIED NO EDITORIAL COMMENT. MAK

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY
ROBERT F.
Department of State
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PAGE 01 KADUNA 01048 061614Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIE 00, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, EUR 15, /070 W

R 060956Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 760
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSULATE IBADAN

UNCLAS KADUNA 1048

JOINT CONSULATE-USIA

1. JUNE 6 NEW NIGERIAN, FRONT PAGE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE. EDITORIAL DESCRIBED SHOOTING KENNEDY AS "SCANDALOUS INHUMAN" AND "BLOT ON CIVILIZATION." CHARACTERIZING THE SENATOR AS CHAMPION OF "RACIAL INTEGRATION IN AMERICA." EDITORIAL CHARGES THAT "EVERYONE WHO HAS ATTEMPTED TO FREE AMERICA FROM INTELLECTUAL BLINDNESS AND RACIAL BIGOTRY HAS BEEN REWARDED WITH ASSASSINS BULLETS." SENATOR KENNEDY COMPARED WITH HIS LATE BROTHER PRESIDENT JOHN KENNEDY WHO WAS ALSO "VICTIM OF AMERICAN INTOLERANCE AND GROSS DISRESPECT OF HUMAN

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 1048KK UNCLAS

DIGNITY." BECAUSE OF HIS RACIAL STAND "WHITE RACISTS BELIEVE HIS MURDER WOULD SILENCE VOICE OF DISSENT," BUT EDITORIAL OPINES THAT "DESPITE ALL ODDS IN AMERICA, WILL TO BE FREE CAN NEVER BE CONQUERED BY SWORD OR BULLETS." NEW NIGERIAN EXPRESSES HOPE SENATOR WILL SURVIVE "TO CURE AMERICA OF ITS ILLS SO THAT RACES IN AMERICA MAY BE INTEGRATED PEACEFULLY AS ONE PEOPLE, ONE RACE, ONE DESTINY."

2. WEDNESDAY EVENING RKTU NEWS DEVOTED OVER TEN OF FIFTEEN MINUTES TO WIRE SERVICE REPORTS, PHOTOS AND NEWS CLIP OF KENNEDY ANNOUNCING CANDIDACY. ALSO QUOTED SOVIET COMMENT THAT MURDER OF POLITICAL LEADERS IN U.S. BECOMING "INCREASINGLY FREQUENT OCCURENCE." STOKES

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POL 6 215/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00746 062245Z

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ACTION H 02

INFO ARA 08,SS 20,H 02,NSC 10,CPR 02,SSO 00,P 04,USIA 12,RSR 01,

RSC 01,7060 W

R 061315Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1755

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 746

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TELEGRAM DATED JUNE 5 TO MRS. ETHEL
KENNEDY:

QUOTE: THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ST. VINCENT ARE SHOCKED
TO HEAR OF ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE AND PRAY THAT
HE WILL HAVE A SPEEDY AND COMPLETE RECOVERY. ADMINISTRATOR ST.
VINCENT. END QUOTE
MANN

Handwritten: 6/6/68, 1.017-746

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Department of State

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01365 061402Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, PSR 01, RSC 01, /067 W

P 060920Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1695

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 1365

FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF URGENT TELEGRAM JUST SENT BY
PRESIDENT BONGO TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON EXPRESSING DISTRESS DUE
ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY:

"PAINFULLY MOVED BY THE TRAGIC ATTACK OF WHICH SENATOR
KENNEDY HAS JUST BEEN THE VICTIM. I WOULD APPRECIATE
IT IF, ON BEHALF OF THE GABONESE PEOPLE, THE GABONESE
GOVERNMENT, AND ME PERSONALLY, YOU WOULD TRANSMIT TO THE
KENNEDY FAMILY, ALREADY SO CRUELLY TRIED, OUR PROFOUND
SYMPATHY. IN SPITE OF THE GRAVITY OF HIS WOUNDS, WE
MAINTAIN HOPE AND EXPRESS OUR SINCERE WISHES FOR THE
COMPLETE RECOVERY OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S HEALTH. PLEASE
ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE EXPRESSION OF MY HIGHEST AND
FRIENDLIEST CONSIDERATION.

ALBERT BERNARD BONGO"
BANE

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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54
ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00, /070 W

P R 060834Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5701
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USUN 1005

Lim Dis

*Amman 5202
6-6-68*

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE AMMAN 5202

JOINT USIS-EMBASSY MESSAGE

REF: STATE 177068

1. EMBASSY RECEIVING PRESS INQUIRIES WHETHER AMMAN ISSUED VISA TO SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. (SINCE JERUSALEM NOT VISA ISSUING OFFICE PRIOR JUNE WAR IT LOGICAL FOR PRESS TO CONCLUDE VISA WAS ISSUED IN AMMAN.) HOWEVER, SINCE 1956 VISA RECORDS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, WE IN FACT HAVE NO RECORD HERE OF ISSUANCE OF VISA TO SIRHAN. THEREFORE, WE ARE PLANNING TO RESPOND TO PRESS AS FOLLOWS/ " SINCE NO VISA FACILITIES IN ARAB JERUSALEM AT TIME SIRHAN WENT TO U.S., IT IS POSSIBLE HE MAY HAVE RECEIVED VISA IN AMMAN. WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN SINCE LOCAL VISA RECORDS ARE NOT RETAINED BEYOND FOUR YEARS."

2. ASSUMING INS RECORDS CONFIRM VISA ISSUED AMMAN (STATE 177068) WE SEE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD NOT BE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES.

3. REQUEST DEPT'S CONCURRENCE IN OUR SO USING VISA ISSUANCE INFORMATION IN STATE 177068. SYMMES

NOTE: HANDLED LIMDIS PER SSD.

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

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177068

L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screener W

POST

Amman

(Time Received)

SERIAL

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1968 JUN 6 AM 9 25

DISTRIBUTIONMONTHLY COUNT 131Secretariat

S/S-S 1
 S/S-O 1
 S/S-Screener 3 3
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 S/S-CMS
 S/S-O DIR
 MilRep
 Summary
 Task Force

Principals

ES2 1 1
 S
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 M2
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 SIG 1
 S/AH3
 S/AL
 S/C
 S/CPR
 S/GOV
 S/IL
 S/P
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 S/PM
 M/WP
 G/PM
 G/DP

Geographic

AF5
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 EUR9
 NEA7 X 7

Functional

CU
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 SCI

OTHER AGENCIES

WH10 10
 CIA P
 DOD
 USIA4 4
 NSA

Other

ACDA5
 AID/EXSEC3
 AA/AFR2
 AA/VN2
 AA/EA2
 AA/NESA2

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

6 JUN 68 22 50 z

FOR OCT/NOV 1991 Y

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN PRIORITY
Amconsul JERUSALEM PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy BEIRUT
" LONDON
" TEL AVIV
- USUN *NY*

STATE:

REF: Amman's 5202

EMB may respond if queried that visa was issued on September 24, 1956 in Amman to Sirhan, together with his parents and three other children.

FOR JERUSALEM: INS requests you ascertain from
Bishara Sirhan date he left US. END

RUSK

Drafted by:

L/NEA:DAWehmeyer:eg/

Tel. Ext.

5895

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: NEA - Mr. Rockwell

Clearances:

NEA/IAI - Mr. Precht

SY - Mr. Lynch

NEA/ARN - Mr. Wiley

P - Mr. Phillips

V0 - Mr. Owen

USIA - Mr. Carter

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

INS - Mr. Burrows

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Classification



POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

27

UNCLASSIFIED 490

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04001 061101Z

19
ACTION NEA 15

INFO SS 20, NSC 10, P 04, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, H 02, RSR 01,

/060 W

P 060900Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC 3981

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 4001

USIAC

JOINT/USIS EMBASSY

FOR IOP/GM, IBS, IPS

KENNEDY CASE

ISRAELI AFTERNOON MAARIV PUBLISHES INTERVIEW WITH
ALLEGED FATHER OF KENNEDY SHOOTING SUSPECT
LOCATED IN VILLAGE NEAR ISRAELI OCCUPIED RAMALLAH.
ALLEGED FATHER SAYS PERSONALLY ADMIRER OF SENATOR
KENNEDY AND SHOCKED AT SON'S ACTION. CALLS SON
QUOTE BRILLIANT SCHOLAR UNQUOTE. MAARIV EDITOR
INFORMED BY USIS OF FATHER'S NAME REPORTED IN
USIA 12177 CIRCULAR JUNE 6. REPORTS ALLEGED FATHER
RETURNED FROM UNITED STATES 1960 BECAUSE UNABLE
ADJUST. MAARIV NOT YET ON STREETS. WILL SEND
FULL REPORT LATER.
GILDNER

Tel Aviv 4001
6-6-68

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Pol 6 US/Kennedy Robert F.
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6 JUN 68 22 37z

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Origin

ACTION: Amconsul MBABANE

Info:

STATE

REF: MBABANE 177

Department

1. On receipt REFTEL/ascertained that Gamede is due to receive honorary degree at Wheaton College June 8 and therefore could scarcely be available attend Kennedy funeral. Believe ~~XXXXXX~~ Sukati at present in Europe.
2. Recognizing that Swaziland as yet not fully independent, there is no requirement that it be represented at Kennedy funeral; however, hope you will convey to King Sobhuza Department's sincere appreciation his offer to have Gamede represent him personally at funeral.

END

RUSK

Drafted by:

AF:AFAS:HFByrne:jmb 6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF - Mr. Quimby

Clearances:

AFS - Mr. Clark
S/CPR - Mr. Pace (phone)

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Pol 6 US / Kennedy, Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM
72

UNCLASSIFIED 152

PAGE 01 MBABAN 00177 061826Z

53

ACTION CPR 02

INFO AF 09,SS 20,GPM 04,H 02,P 04,USIE 00,NSCE 00,NSC 10,0 02,SY 03,

OPR 02,SSO 00,RSR 01,RSC 01,1060 W

O 061801Z JUN 68

FM AMCONSUL MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 279 IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MBABANE 177

SWAZIS HAVE ENQUIRED POSSIBILITIES APPOINT GAMEDE OR SUKAFI PER-
SONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF KING AT ROBERT F KENNEDY'S FUNERAL.

ARE EITHER PHYSICALLY AVAILABLE SUCH APPOINTMENT AND IS TIME SUFFI-
CIENT TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS? NELSON.

*Mbabane 177
6/6/68*

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 IBADAN 00489 071755Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO USIE 00, SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

P 04, RSC 01, RSR 01, /062 W

R 061554Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 570
INFO AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IBADAN 489

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: STATE 176747

JOINT/ USIS MESSAGE

1. IBADAN PRESS REACTIONS INCLUDED IN LAGOS USINFO.

OTHER REACTIONS FOLLOW:

2. ACTING BPAO RECEIVED PHONE CALL IN WHICH UNIDENTIFIED CALL REPEATED "YOU ARE KILLERS." NO OTHER SUCH CALLS REPORTED BY OTHER USG PERSONNEL.

3. WHEN MEMORIAL DISPLAY PUT UP IN USIS LIBRARY, GROUP OF ABOUT DOZEN LIBRARY MEMBERS WHO HAD NOT YET HEARD OF KENNEDY'S DEATH, TORE UP THEIR LIBRARY CARDS AND LEFT LIBRARY. OTHERS REMAINED. LIBRARY REMAINS OPEN. NO FURTHER INCIDENT.

4. TWO UNIBADAN STUDENT LEADERS WHO HAVE VISITED US, IKOTALA-ALLEN, FORMER PRESIDENT UNIBADAN STUDENT'S ASSN, AND KAYODE IWAKUN, EXECUTIVE IN NIGERIAN STUDENT VOLUNTEER SERVICES ORGANIZATION, VOLUNTEERED RESTRAINED COMMENTS. SAID RUMORS THAT ASSASSINATION WAS CONSPIRACY WERE CIRCULATION ON UNIBADAN CAMPUS, IMPLICATING VARIOUS PERSONS INCLUDING PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND SENATOR MCCARTHY. BOTH SAID THEY ARGUING AGAINST SUCH THESES ON GROUNDS IMPOSSIBILITY KEEP CONSPIRACIES SECRET IN US. STUDENT REACTION GENERALLY ONE OF SHOCK AND BITTERNESS OVER ASSASSINATION OF ANOTHER AMERICAN WHO IDENTIFIED WITH ASPIRATIONS NEGROES, POOR, ETC. COMMON CRITICISM I.E.G. BY ASSISTANT POLICE COMMISSIONER ONITOLA ON ABSENCE EFFECTIVE GUN CONTROL LAWS AND STATEMENTS SUCH ASSASSINATIONS LOSING FRIENDS FOR U.S. AROUND WORLD.

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PAGE 02 IBADAN 00489 071755Z

5. LINDSEY BARRETT(VLOB) JAMAICAN FREELANCE WRITER, WHO OUTSPOKEN CRITIC US RACIAL PRACTICES VISITED BPAO SEEKING USIS MATERIALS AND WHILE CLEARLY SHOCKED, EXPRESSED HIMSELF MODERATELY AND HOPED TRAGEDY WOULD RESULT IN SOME RACIAL PROGRESS IN US.

6. WESTERN INFO COMMISSIONER ONABANJO EXPRESSED SYMPATHY TO ASSISTANT BPAO BUT MADE NO OTHER COMMENT. ALHAJJI SAKA FAGBO HEAD OF NEWS FOR NBC IN WEST, AND DESIGNATED SPECIALIST GRANTEE, MADE POINT THAT VIOLENCE SO WIDE SPREAD IN WORLD THAT NO POLITICAL LEADER SAFE.

7. AMERICAN TEACHER REPORTS UNIVERSAL SHOCK AMONG FACULTY AT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AND UNIBADAN. NIGERIANS, AMERICANS AND OTHER EXPATS BELIEVE SERIES OF ASSASSINATIONS IS RESULT OF WHITE RACISM IN US WHICH MANY ASSOCIATE WITH "ESTABLISHMENT." MOST ALSO BELIEVE CONSPIRACY THEORY. AT SAME TIME, VOA CREDIBILITY HAS INCREASED BECAUSE OF ITS OBJECTIVE REPORTING ON RACIAL MATTERS.

8. COMMENT: WE PRESUMABLY HAVE NOT HEARD BITTEREST REACTIONS OR HAVE GOTTEN DILUTED VERSION, AND, IN ANY CASE, THERE HAS NOT BEEN TIME FOR FULL REACTION TO DEVELOP. WE ARE, NEVERTHELESS, STRUCK BY FACT THAT, THUS FAR, LOCAL SHOCK, BAFFLEMENT AND REVULSION HAS BEEN TEMPERED BY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND HAS NOT SHOWN ITSELF IN OVERT ANTI-AMERICANISM.
STRONG

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ROBERT F.

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00919 062233Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, SAH 03, NIC 01, RSR 01, /099 W

R 062134Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1589

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 919

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY

1. ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY DOMINATES NEWS AND EDITORIALS
LOCAL PRESS. COMMENTS, WRITTEN BEFORE SENATOR'S DEATH
AND APPARENTLY BEFORE NATIONALITY AND BACKGROUND OF ASSAILANT
KNOWN HERE, CONTAIN STRONG AND BITTER ATTACKS ON USG AND
AMERICAN SOCIETY.

2. ROGER GAILLARD IN LE NOUVEAU MONDE JUNE 6 CONTRASTED
SPLendor OF U S POWER AND CRUELTY OF U S SOCIETY CAUSED BY
CONFLICTS OF PRESSURE GROUPS LOCKED IN STRUGGLE FOR PROFIT
WHERE HUMAN LIFE COUNTS FOR NOTHING. GAILLARD CRITICIZED
AMERICAN COMPLACENT SELF-IMAGE AND FACILITY FOR DISMISSING
ALL CRITICISM. ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE
IS SYMPTOMATIC, HE CONCLUDED; AT ROOT OF PROBLEM IS AMERICA'S
REFUSAL TO ADMIT THAT ITS CONSCIENCE, SYSTEM AND ADMINISTRA-
TION NEED REFORMING.

3. ANTOINE HERARD IN ARTICLE ENTITLED "WASHINGTON UJD LINCOLN CRY IN THEIR TOMBS" CONTINUED HIS ATTACK (SEE PORT AU PRINCE 905) ON UNSPECIFIED AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WERE ACCUSING THEM OF ABUSING THEIR DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES BY BEING AGGRESSIVE AND NEGATIVE. PARAPHRASING CERTAIN PASSAGES FROM NEVILLE HENDERSON'S "FAILURE OF A MISSION" ABOUT DUTIES OF AMBASSADORS NOT ONLY TO REPRESENT OWN COUNTRIES BUT ALSO TO REPORT AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE ON HOST COUNTRY, HE IMPLIED THAT AMERICAN AMBASSADORS, PARTICULARLY IN CARIBBEAN, HAVE NOT PERFORMED SATISFACTORILY. HERARD

PORT AU PRINCE ~~18~~

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PAGE 02 PORT A 00919 062233Z

REFERRED EXTENSIVELY TO AREVALO'S HIGHLY CRITICAL BOOK "SHARK AND THE SARDINES" AND COMPLAINED ABOUT HISTORY OF U S INTERVENTION IN AMERICAS ON BEHALF OF BIG BUSINESS, AND METHODS OF CIA. HE CONCLUDED IRONICALLY BY POINTING TO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AND RHETORICALLY ASKING WHETHER AMERICANS CAN CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THEY ARE THE MOST CIVILIZED.

4. A THIRD NOUVEAU MONDE ARTICLE (UNSIGNED, PROBABLY WRITTEN BY EDITOR DE CATALOGNE) ENTITLED "U S IN TORMENT" ALLEGES THYBAGHGDUGTJRIRVOGSIEBPYBUHFETIHYGACFALONG TRADITION OF BRUTALITY WHICH NO LAW HAS BEEN ABLE TO CHECK. AUTHOR QUESTIONFMRIGHT OF AMERICANS "WHO BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO REPREEGNT RIGHT, LEGALITY AND LEGITIMACY TO GIVE US LESSIONS IN CIVILIZATION"; WHEN MRS ROSE KENNEDY CAN DECLARE, AS SHE DID A FEW WEEKS AGO, THERE IS NOTHING TO PREVENT HER FAMILY, WHICH POSSESSES LARGE FORTUNE, TO ELECT A SON PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THIS STATEMENT IN ITSELF IS STRIKING CONDEMNATION OF DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. WRITER ALSO ASSERTS WORLDWIDE EXPRESSION OF INDIGNATION AND SYMPATHY ON THIS OCCASION COMPARED WITH LACK OF ANY SUCH EXPRESSION AT BOMBING OF PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN PORT AU PRINCE MAY 20 IS PROOF THAT DIFFERENNT STANDARDS ARE APPLIED TO PRESIDENT OF SMALL NEGRO REPUBLIC AND HEIR OF RICH AMERICAN FAMILY. HE FURTHER COMPLAINS THAT GOLDBERG EXPRESSED NO REGRETS IN SECURITY COUNCIL WHEN REQUESTING PROOF OF BOMBARDMENT, EVEN THOUGH U S EMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE HAD ALREADY FURNISHED AMPLE INFORMATION.

5. IN UNSIGNED EDITORIAL ENTITLED "DALLAS, MEMPHIS AND LOS ANGES," LE NOUVELLISTE JUNE 5 PRAISED ROBERT KENNEDY FOR REPRESENTING EXTRAORDINARY COMBINATION OF IDEALISM AND REALISM. ARTICLE REPORTED KENNED Y HAD ADVOCATED GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION WHILE CAMPAIGNING IN OREGON BUT WAS BOOED BY NXOWD. SPECULATION AS TO MOTIVE WENT AS FAR AS TO ASK WHETHER OR NOT SHOOTING INTENDED TO PREVENT RE-CONSIDERATION OF WARREN REPORT. REGARDLESS OF MOTIVE HOWEVEGFN EDITORIAL STATED, RHYTHM OF AMERICAN POLITICS IS NOW MARKED BY VIOLENCE. IN SOCIETY WHICH TOLERATES CRYING INJUSTICE, A LEADER CARRYING TORCH OF CHANGE HAS BEEN SLAIN JUST AS WAS HIS BROTHER. ONLY ONES TO GAIN FROMNP ASSASSINATION

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PAGE 03 PORT A 00919 062233Z

N EDITORIAL CONCLUDE, ARE THOSE WHO PROFIT
FROM SYSTEM WAY IT IS CURENTLY CONSTRUCTED. EXEMPT. ROSS

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 02552 061539Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO SS 00, H 02, NSC 10, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01,

USIA 12, RSR 01, /073 W

R 061802Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHBC 2692

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 25520L

1. THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY HAS PROFOUNDLY

SHOCKED HONDURANS. MOST RADIO STATIONS HAVE PRE-EMPTED REGULAR PROGRAMMING TO GIVE EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE. UNFORTUNATELY AT TIMES THEY HAVE SPECULATED WILDLY, SOME EVEN REPORTING HIS DEATH AND TALKING OF SINISTER PLOTS. NEWSPAPER COVERAGE VERY HEAVY WITH EL CRONISWJA, TEGUCIGALPA, PUTTING OUT SPECIAL EDITION.

2. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED MANY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY FROM BOTH PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE CITIZENS.
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*Telegram 2552
6/6/68*

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Department of State

Pol 6 US/Kennedy
Robert F.
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 BONN 12944 061805Z

54
ACTION P 04

INFO EUR 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USSE 00, RSR 01, Y069 W

R 061648Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8550

UNCLAS BONN 12944

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY STRUCK GERMANS OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF AMERICA'S DEEPENING DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THE COMMON REACTION WAS, "WHAT HAS AMERICA COME TO?" THE FIRST REACTION ARTICLES DESCRIBED BELOW WERE WRITTEN BEFORE THE IDENTITY, BACKGROUND, AND POSSIBLE MOTIVES OF THE ASSAILANT WERE KNOWN.

2. THOUGHTFUL GERMANS, FROM CHANCELLOR KIESINGER TO THE SUEDE-DEUTSCHE ZEITUNG'S FOREIGN EDITOR, REGARDED THE LOS ANGELES TRAGEDY AS A RENEWED WARNING SIGNAL THAT VIOLENCE CAN ERUPT IN ANY SOCIETY. BUT GERMAN NEWS MEDIA WERE MOVED TO QUESTION U.S. CAPACITY FOR LEADERSHIP IN THE WESTERN WORLD.

3. GERD RUGE, ONE OF GERMAN RADIO AND TELEVISION'S TOP CORRESPONDENTS COMMENTED FROM LOS ANGELES, "... NEVER BEFORE HAS AMERICA HAD MORE DOUBT ABOUT HERSELF. IT IS LIKE A SEVERE ILLNESS IN A SOCIETY WHEN POLITICAL MURDERS HAVE BECOME ALMOST PREDICTABLE EVENTS."

4. RHEINISCHE POST, A STAUNCH FRIEND OF THE U.S., EDITORIALIZED THAT THE U.S. HAS MASTERED TECHNOLOGY BUT FAILED TO SOLVE ITS HUMAN PROBLEMS. ONLY A "PURGING OF MORAL CONSCIENCE" CAN HELP THE U.S., THE PAPER BELIEVES.

5. SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG FELT THAT THE SHOTS IN LOS ANGELES, AS WELL AS THOSE OF MEMPHIS AND DALLAS, STRUCK AT THE VERY CORE OF DEMOCRACY. THE PAPER EXPRESSED THE THOUGHT THAT WHEN

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PAGE 02 BONN 12944 061805Z

PEOPLE RESORT TO VIOLENCE THEY HAVE LOST FAITH IN DEMOCRACY WHICH OFFERS PEACEFUL CHANGE. SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG WARNS THAT THIS TENDENCY SEEMS TO BE UNIVERSAL AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE KENNEDY SHOOTING WILL BRING A RETURN TO REASON EVERYWHERE.

6. FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG ECHOED A SIMILAR SENTIMENT WHEN IT EDITORIALIZED, "... WHERE IS THE PERSON WHO WOULD NOT FIND HIMSELF IN A GLASS HOUSE WHILE THROWING STONES AT A SOCIETY WHOSE HISTORY INCLUDES VIOLENCE...?"

7. ALONG THE SAME LINES, MUENCHNER MERKUR REFLECTS ON THE PROCESS OF CHANGE WHICH IS OCCURRING IN THE WORLD AND INSISTS THAT SUCH CHANGE SHOULD BE MASTERED IN AN ORDERLY EVOLUTIONARY PROCESS. "... LAWLESSNESS AND BRUTALITY ARE INCREASING ALARMINGLY. WHAT IS ALSO ALARMING IS THE FAILURE OF THE ESTABLISHED WORLD TO BECOME AWARE OF THE CHALLENGE (OF CHANGE)... THE ATTEMPT ON ROBERT KENNEDY'S LIFE HAS MADE ALL THIS EVEN MORE VISIBLE..."

8. BONNS GENERAL ANZEIGER SAID THAT AMERICANS ARE NO MORE INCLINED TO VIOLENCE THAN OTHERS, BUT FELT "... THE MORAL FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN SOCIETY IS SHAKEN..."

9. MANY OTHER GERMAN NEWSPAPERS REFLECTED SIMILAR THOUGHTS. HOWEVER, THERE WERE SOME WHO BELIEVE WITH THE WELL-KNOWN NORTH GERMAN REGIONAL DAILY, KIELER VOLKS ZEITUNG, THAT WHEN THE U.S. IS INCAPABLE OF COPING WITH ITS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS, IT CANNOT BE COUNTED UPON TO ASSUME THE LEADERSHIP OF THE WERSERN WORLD.

10. NUMEROUS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ALSO SPECULATED THAT IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE KENNDY TRAGEDY, RENEWED VIOLENCE MAY BREAK OUT IN THE U.S.

11. NOT SINCE THE DEATH OF CHANCELLOR ADENAUER IN 1967, HAVE GERMAN NEWS MEDIA GIVEN A SINGLE SUBJECT SUCH WIDE COVERAGE. EIGHT COLUMN HEADLINES WERE THE RULE RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION. RADIO AND TELEVISION REARRANGED BROADCAST SCHEDULES TO COVER THE NEWS AND FEATURE SHORT BACKGROUND PIECES ON SENATOR KENNEDY. MOST OF GERMANY'S REGIONAL RADIO STATIONS USED DIRECT VOA RELAYS TO COVER THE EVENT. TELEVISION ALSO FEATURED STATEMENTS BY PROMINENT GERMANS, INCLUDING CHANCELLOR KIESINGER AND AMBASSADOR LODGE. LODGE

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Pal 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F

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RR PPB 9 Peru

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PAGE 01 LIMA 05451 062049Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, /070 W

R 061733Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO USINFO WASHDC
SECSTATE WASHDC 6335

UNCLAS LIMA 5451

FOR IOP/GM, IPS, IBS

SUBJ: CURRENT REACTION REPORT

JOINT STATE/USIS MESSAGE

1. LIMA MEDIA, PUBLIC OPINION IN GENERAL DISPLAYED PROFOUND REVULSION TODAY OVER ASSASSINATION SEN. KENNEDY, WITH OPINIONS RANGING FROM SIMPLE EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY TO OUTBURSTS OVER CRIMINAL CONSPIRACIES IN U.S. TO SILENCE VOICES OF PROGRESS. CRIME LINKED BY MEDIA TO ASSASSINATIONS MARTIN LUTHER KING AND PRESIDENT KENNEDY. AMONG MORE MODERATE STATEMENTS WERE FOLLOWING FROM PRESIDENT BELAUNDE AND CARDINAL JUAN LANDAZURI RICKETTS, HEAD OF PERUVIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

2. IN MESSAGE TO WIFE OF SEN. KENNEDY, PRESIDENT BELAUNDE SAID: "HONDAMENTE IMPRESIONADO POR INCALIFICABLE ATENTADO CONTRA GRAN CIUDADANO AMIGO SENADOR KENNEDY EXPRESO A USTED Y A SUS HIJOS MI SOLIDARIDAD EN ESTA HORA Y RUEGO ALI ALTI- SIMO RESTABLEZCA PRECIADA SALUD SU ILUSTRE ESPOSO".

3. IN PUBLIC STATEMENT, CARDINAL LANDAZURI SAID "QUE ESTE TRISTE ACONTECIMIENTO SIRVA DE OCASION PARA REFLEXIONAR QUE EL CRIMEN Y LA VIOLENCIA NO CONDUCEN A NADA POSITIVO Y QUE MAS BIEN, CONSTITUYEN UNA NEGACION DE LOS DERECHOS HUMANOS, BASE A TODA DEMOCRACIA Y DEL PROGRESO SOCIAL".

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6/6/68*

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PAGE 02 LIMA 05451 062049Z

4. SEVERAL PAPERS PUBLISHED "MAN-IN-STREET" INTERVIEWS, WITH OPINIONS EXPRESSED VARYING FROM SHOCK AND CONDEMNATION TO EXPRESSIONS OF SORROW FOR KENNEDY FAMILY.

5. EDITORIAL COMMENTS CALLED ATTENTION TO WAVE OF VIOLENCE IN U.S. TO TOTALITARIAN TENDENCIES, TO CONSPIRACIES AND POSSIBLE PLOTS. SEVERAL PAPERS CALLED FOR END OF HATE AND RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF REASON. EL COMERCIO, PERU'S LEADING DAILY, SAID:

6. "EN TODO EL PLANETA, HOMBRES, JUJERES Y NINOS... MUESTRAN EN UNA EXTRAÑA MEZCLA DE INCREUDULIDAD Y DE ESTUPOR, EL REPUDIO UNIVERSAL DE TODOS LOS SERES HUMANOS POR LA INSENSATA VIOLENCIA QUE PRETENDE ARRANCAR DE RAIZ EL SENTIMIENTO QUE LOS LIDERES DEL PUEBLO NORTEAMERICANO PROFESA POR LA JUSTICIA, LA DEMOCRACIA Y LA PAZ".

7. EDITORIAL QUOTES VARIOUS STATEMENTS OF SHOCK FROM AROUND THE WORLD, AND CONCLUDES:

8. "ES UNA HORA DIFICIL PARA LA DEMOCRACIA AMERICANA, UNA HORA DE MEDITACION PARA ESE GRAN PUEBLO QUE SEGURAMENTE SE ESTA PREGUNTANDO LO MISMO QUE NOSOTROS. LAS BALAS NO PODRAN ACABAR CON LA FE EN LA JUSTICIA. EL ODIO NO LOGRARA SUS NEGROS PROPOSITOS. EL SENADOR KENNEDY SIMBOLIZA, HOY, LA LUCHA POR LA LIBERTAD HUMANA EN LOS CINCO CONTINENTES".

9. EXPRESO EDITORIAL BLAMED CRIME ON "POWERFUL MAFIAS" AS WELL AS PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS PRODUCED BY THREE WARS. EDITORIAL SAID, IN PART:

10. "A NEW AND SAVAGE POLITICAL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT HAS SHAKEN THE WORLD, FILLING THE UNITED STATES WITH SHAME AND SORROW, A COUNTRY IN WHICH POLITICAL CRIME SEEMS TO CONVERT ITSELF INTO A COMMON ARM TO SILENCE THE MOST BRILLIANT AND PROGRESSIVE MEN. THE NATION WHICH MADE FREEDOM, ESPECIALLY FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, A NATIONAL MYSTIQUE, SEEMS TO BE PASSING THROUGH A PATHOLOGICAL PROCESS OF VIOLENCE".

11. EXPRESO'S WIDELY-READ COLUMNIST MANJEL D'ORNELLAS SAID ANY OF VARIOUS U.S. GROUPS COULD BE BEHIND ATTEMPT -- POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS OR GANGSTER UNDERWORLD.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 03 LIMA 05451 062049Z

12. EDITORIAL IN CORREO SAID "CRIME OF LOS ANGELES HORRIFIES ENTIRE WORLD" WHILE LA PRENSA STATED THAT "METHODS OF VIOLENCE AND MURDER DESERVE UNIVERSAL REPUDIATION". LA CRONICA BESEECHED GOD TO AID MANKIND PUT AN END TO CRIME AND HOMICIDE.

13. ALL PAPERS PUBLISHED COPIOUS WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING PHOTOS OF ASSASSINATION, SEN. KENNEDY'S BACKGROUND, STATEMENTS FROM WORLD LEADERS, STORIES OF EXTREMIST GROUPS, ETC. CARTER

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 616

PAGE 01 MOGADI 03302 061225Z

47

ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, P 04, NSC 10, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, AID 28

PC 04, RSR 01, /092 W

R 061055Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3679
INFO USIA WASHDC
USINFO WASHDC UNN

UNCLAS MOGADISCIO 3302

REF: STATE 176747

1. INITIAL REACTIONS TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY MIXTURE DISBELIEF, GRIEF, SHOCK AND SYMPATHY. WITHIN MINUTES AFTER NEWS BROKE AMBASSADOR RECEIVED TELEPHONE MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY FROM PRIME MINISTER AND FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON BEHALF OF FOREIGN MINISTER.

2. MAN IN STREET IN MOGADISCIO BECAME AWARE OF ATTEMPT SOON AFTER IT TOOK PLACE. A FEW OF THOSE EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ALSO WONDERED WHETHER THIS ATTEMPT MIGHT LEAD TO FURTHER DISTURBANCES WITH US.

3. CORRIERE ON JUNE 6 USING LARGEST HEADLINES IN POST'S RECOLLECTION DEVOTED MOST OF FRONT PAGE TO SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT OF STORY. STAFF OF PAPER COMMENTED THAT ALL NATIONS HAVE THEIR SHARE DEMENTED INDIVIDUALS AND THAT OCCASIONALLY THERE ARE HAZARDS TO INDIVIDUALS IN SOCIETY AS FREE AS AMERICAN.

4. RADIO MOGADISCIO REPORTED THAT THEIR TELEPRINTER FACILITIES WERE CONSTANTLY BESEIGED BY PEOPLE SEEKING REPORTS ON KENNEDY'S CONDITION. SAME SOURCE INDICATED PRAYERS BEING SAID IN LOCAL MOSQUES FOR KENNEDY'S RECOVERY. THURSTON

26
Mogadiscio 3302
6-6-68

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Department of State TELEGRAM

Pol 6 US/Kennedy, 26
Robert F. Kennedy

UNCLASSIFIED 562

PAGE 01 DAKAR 02986 061159Z

46
ACTION AF 15

INFO H 02, SS 20, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIE 00, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, /055

P 061100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2484

UNCLAS DAKAR 2986

PASS USIA

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSINATION

1. IMMEDIATE REACTION THIS A.M. TO NEWS DEATH OF KENNEDY HAS BEEN ONE OF STUNNED DISBELIEF. HAVE HAD SERIES OF PHONE CALLS OFFERING SYMPATHY.

2. BELIEVE PRESIDENT SENGHOR SENT MESSAGE LAST NIGHT DIRECTLY TO MRS. KENNEDY. HE WAS INFORMED OF DEATH AS SOON AS AGENCIES CARRIED ACCOUNT HERE.

3. PRESS AND RADIO HAVE BEEN CARRYING WIRE SERVICE STORIES AT LENGTH, EXTREMELY FAVORABLE TO ENTIRE KENNEDY FAMILY. THEME THAT HE WAS CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER PARTICULARLY STRESSED.

4. WE HAVE PUT FLAGS AT HALF-MAST AND OPENED BOOK. PLAN HOLD MEMORIAL SERVICE IN DAKAR CATHEDRAL ONCE WE LEARN WHEN FUNERAL WILL TAKE PLACE IN U.S.
BROWN

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert
 Department of State

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23

UNCLASSIFIED 500

PAGE 01 JIDDA 04289 061111Z

11

ACTION NEA 15

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, RSR 01, /067 W

 R 060918Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3766
 INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

UNCLAS JIDDA 4289

 MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OMAR SAQQAF TELEPHONED THIS
 MORNING TO EXPRESS SAG'S SHOCK AND REGRET ABOUT ATTACK
 ON SENATOR KENNEDY. EILTS

*Jidde 4289
 6/6/68*

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04139 061954Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /086 W

R 061610Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8614

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 4139

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS TREATMENT OF KENNEDY SHOOTING

1. SOVIET MEDIA (PRESS AND TV) IMMEDIATELY SEIZED UPON SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY AS THEME FOR VICIOUS PROPAGANDA ATTACKS UPON US DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES, AS WELL AS ENTIRE POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND WAY OF LIFE IN AMERICA. CONSPICUOUSLY MISSING IS ANY MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TO KENNEDY FAMILY OR PEOPLE OF USA.

2. IN PROMINENT COVERAGE BY KONDRASHEV AND COMMENTARY BY SEVEROV ON FRONT PAGE LAST NIGHT'S IZVESTIYA, AS WELL AS LENGTHY COMMENTARY BY VISHNEVSKIY TODAY'S PRAVDA, ATROCITIES, POLITICAL TERROR, ASSASSINATIONS, AND LYNCHINGS ARE DESCRIBED AS CHARACTERISTIC ELEMENTS WHICH ARE ENGENDERED IN US BY ALLEGED ALLEGED POLICIES OF RACISM, WARS OF AGGRESSION, DOMINATION BY MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX, AND DEVELOPMENT OF ULTRA-RIGHT MOVEMENTS.

3. SOVIETS CHARACTERIZE SENATOR AS FAITHFUL SERVANT OF "RULING CLASS" IN HIS ASSOCIATION WITH SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY AND HIS TENURE AS ATTORNEY GENERAL. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO PRAVDA COMMENTARY, WHEN KENNEDY, ALLEGEDLY UNDER PRESSURE OF PUBLIC OPINION, OPPOSED ESCALATION OF VIETNAM WAR, HE EARNED HATRED OF ULTRA-REACTIONARIES. ARTICLES SUGGEST BOTH OFFICIAL NEGLIGENCE AND EVEN CONNIVANCE IN SHOOTINGS. PRAVDA ASSERTS THAT EVAN A "BOURGEOIS LEADER" WHO DEPARTS THE SLIGHTEST DEGREE FROM GENERAL LINE OF IMPERIALISM IS SUBJECT TO ELIMINATION.

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04139 061954Z

4. COVERAGE THUS FAR HAMMERS HOME CRITICISM OF AMERICA, ESPECIALLY BY CATALOGUING VIOLENT DEATHS OF NEGRO LEADERS EVERS, JACKSON, MALCOLM X AND KING, AND BY ASSERTING EXISTENCE IN US OF WIDESPREAD REPRESSION AGAINST POOR PEOPLE, PROGRESSIVE OR ANTI-WAR ELEMENTS, WORKERS, AND, OF COURSE, COMMUNIST PARTY.

5. TELEVISION COVERAGE LAST NIGHT FOLLOWED SAME LINE AS CENTRAL PRESS, ATTACKING VERY FABRIC OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT US LAW THEORETICALLY SHOULD PROVIDE PROTECTION AND LIBERTIES, TV DEVELOPED THEME WITH CORRESPONDING PICTORIAL MATERIAL THAT ACTUAL EVENTS FAR CRY INDEED FROM PROVISIONS OF LAW.

6. SO FAR, NO MENTION MADE OF NATIONAL ORIGINS OF ACCUSED KILLER EXCEPT STATEMENT THAT HE REPORTEDLY ONCE LIVED IN JERUSALEM. THIS ASPECT OF CRIME MAY CAUSE SOVIETS SOME PROBLEMS IN SUBSEQUENT TREATMENT OF ASSASSINATION. INDICATIONS AT THIS STAGE ARE THAT WE IN FOR MAJOR OUTPOURING OF ANTI-US PROPAGANDA ALONG LINES DESCRIBED ABOVE. GIVEN THEIR CURRENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST ALLEGED IMPERIALIST CAMPAIGN SUBVERT SOCIALIST CAMP BY IDEOLOGICAL PENETRATION, SOVIETS PROBABLY WILL CONTINUE TO EXPLOIT THIS TRAGIC EVENT AS MANIFESTATION "TRUE" NATURE OF FREE SOCIETY. THOMPSON

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POC 6 US/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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CONFIDENTIAL 870

PAGE 01 WARSAW 03472 061543Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, EA 10, NEA 13, NIC 01, RSR 01,

IO 13, /126 W

P R 061417Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6097
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3472

1. POLISH REACTION DURING HOURS BETWEEN KENNEDY SHOOTING AND HIS DEATH MARKED BY HEAVY SYMPATHY, PLUS STRONG OVERTONES LINKING EVENT TO BROTHER'S DEATH AND OTHER VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN LIFE.

2. POPULAR REACTION ONE OF SORROW AND ANGER, UNDERSCORING STRONG HOLD SENATOR AND KENNEDY FAMILY HAVE ON POLISH IMAGINATION. FROM FIRST SENSE OF DISBELIEF, REACTION DURING WEDNESDAY WAS ONE OF QUESTIONING APPARENT SENSELESSNESS OF LATEST ACT IN WHAT APPEARS TO POLES, GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO AMERICAN, TO BE RISING TIDE VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN LIFE.

3. THIS MOOD SUITS REGIME PROPAGANDA LINE WITH MEDIA LINKING EVENT TO DEATH PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING. INITIAL COMMENTARY BY BEREZOWSKI IN "TRYBUNA LUDU" HEADLINED "VIOLENCE AN INTERGRAL PART OF AMERICAN POLITICS," LINKING KENNEDY SHOOTING TO CIVIL RIGHTS DISORDER, VIETNAM AND CONCEPT OF "SICK SOCIETY". GDANSK DAILY "GLOS BALTYCKI" HEADLINED

"MURDER - THE TRADITION OF AMERICA." JASZUNSKI IN ZYCIOW WARSZAWY ARTICLE STATES THAT ROBERT KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PART OF SAME PLOT DIRECTED AGAINST HIS BROTHER.

4. IN GENERAL PRESS REPORTS HAVE PLAYED UP ISSUE OF VIOLENCE AND "POLITICAL ILLNESS" IN US BUT ONE OR TWO ARTICLES

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WARSAW-3472
6-6-68

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Department of State

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PAGE 02 WARSAW 03472 061543Z

HAVE LEFT DOOR OPEN FOR ADDITIONAL FACTS BY INCLUDING MENTION OF ASSASSIN BY NAME AND BIRTH IN ARAB SECTION OF JERUSALEM. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, POLISH RADIO IN POSSIBLE ANTICIPATION OF FUTURE POLISH LINE HAS POINTED OUT THAT US MEDIA WILL PROBABLY ENDEAVOR DIVERT ATTENTION FROM US DOMESTIC ILLS BY FOCUSING ON FACT THAT ASSASSIN WAS FOREIGN BORN AND CONSPIRACY ORIGINATED ABROAD.

5. APPRECIATE DEPT. WILL GIVE GENERAL GUIDANCE ON PUBLIC TREATMENT BUT RECOMMEND POLISH LANGUAGE MEDIA GIVE FULL FACTUAL COVERAGE OF EVENTS, INVESTIGATIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF ASSAILANT. IN ADDITION TO THEME OF US POLITICAL MALAISE, SIMILARITY TO EARLIER KENNEDY AND KING ASSASSINATIONS, IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE IF FACTS MAKE IT IN LEAST BIT PLAUSIBLE POLES IN CONTEXT PRESENT INTERNAL ANTI-SEMITIC CAMPAIGN MIGHT LINK IT TO "ZIONISTS." AS JANCZEWSKI (PROTECT) TOLD EMBOFF THIS MORNING "THEY (READ AUTHORITIES) MIGHT CLAIM ASSASSIN PAID BY JEWS."

6. AMBASSADOR TO US MICHALOWSKI TOLD EMBOFF THURSDAY HE BELIEVED ROBERT KENNEDY HAD BEEN "MARKED MAN BECAUSE HE KNEW WHO KILLED HIS BROTHER." BRUSHING AWAY EMBOFF'S ASSERTION ASSASSIN WAS APPARENTLY DEMENTED FOREIGNER ACTING ALONE, MICHALOWSKI REITERATED HIS BELIEF IN CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS AND JFK ASSASSINATION. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED AT LENGTH THAT VIETNAM WAR HAD CREATED ATMOSPHERE OF VIOLENCE IN US.

EXEMPT. JENKINS

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 KUALA 04433 060951Z

19
ACTION EA 15

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, SSO 00, RSR 01, 100 W

R 060759Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4239

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 4433

1. I HAVE RECEIVED FOLLOWING HANDWRITTEN NOTE FROM THE
PRIME MINISTER:

2. QUOTE MY DEAR JIM,

I WAS SHOCKED TO HEAR OF THE DASTARDLY ATTACK ON THE
LIFE OF BOB KENNEDY, MY FRIEND. IT WAS BOTH COWARDLY AND
WANTONLY, AND I AM LOST FOR WORDS TO DESCRIBE MY FEELING
FOR THIS DISREGARD FOR HUMAN LIFE, PARTICULARLY THAT OF A
GOOD MAN - A GREAT PATRIOT AS BOB.

I PRAY HE WILL RECOVER AND THAT THE BULLET OF THE ASSASSIN
WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON HIS PHYSICAL WELLBEING OR AFFECT HIS
LIFE.

I AM SENDING A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO MRS. KENNEDY AND PLEASE
ACCEPT MY MOST HEART-FELT SYMPATHY FOR WHAT HAS HAPPENED.

WITH KIND REGARDS, YOURS SINCERELY, TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN UNQUOTE.

3. SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS WERE MADE TO ME THIS MORNING AT
OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY TUN RAZAK AND ABOUT HALF OF
MEMBERS OF CABINET, INCLUDING MINISTER OF INFORMATION,
MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, MINISTER OF
PUBLIC WORKS, MINISTER OF COMMERCE, AND MANY OTHER MALAYSIANS
AS WELL AS VIRTUALLY ALL OF MY DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. BELL
BT

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Kuala Lumpur 4433
6-6-68

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 03808 062156Z

81
 ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 081 W

R 061000Z JUN 68
 FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4111

UNCLAS ACCRA 3808

SUBJECT: REACTION TO ROBERT KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

REF: STATE 176747

1. NLC CHAIRMAN AN-RAH, VICE CHAIRMAN HARLEY, OTHER MEMBERS
 NLC, CHIEF JUSTICE AKUFO-ADDO AND COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL
 AFFAIRS ANIN ARE AMONG HUNDREDS OF GHANAIS WHO HAVE EXPRESSED
 PRIVATELY THEIR SORROW AND CONCERN. GENERAL TONE IS ONE OF
 COMPASSION THAT THIS COULD HAPPEN IN U.S.

2. ON BEHALF GOVERNMENT, COMMISSIONER ANIN JUNE 5 EXPRESSED
 QTE SHOCK AND DISMAY AT THE BRUTAL ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. UNQTE
 SAID GOVERNMENT PRAYING FOR SPEEDY RECOVERY.

3. AS OF MORNING JUNE 6 NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.
 FOLEY

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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P/L 6 215/Kennedy, Robert F.

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 03466 061644Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, NSC 10,

CPR 02, RSR 01, /074 W

R 060900Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4418

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 3466

SUBJ: TANZANIAN REACTION TO KENNEDY ATTACK

REF: STATE 176747

1. ALL JUNE 6 NEWSPAPERS HEADLINE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. STORY WAS ALSO LEAD ITEM ON JUNE 5 NOON, AFTERNOON AND EVENING RADIO TANZANIA NEWS BROADCASTS. COVERAGE WAS FULL AND FACTUAL, BUT IDENTITY AND NATIONALITY OF PERSON ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH ATTEMPT NOT KNOWN IN TIME TO MAKE JUNE 6 PAPERS.

2. ONLY PAPER TO CARRY EDITORIAL COMMENT JUNE 6 WAS "STANDARD." PAPER SAID ACT WAS "SHAMEFUL AND SENSELESS." IT COMMENTED, "BUT, UNHAPPILY, SUCH VIOLENCE SEEMS TO BE A PART OF THE SICKNESS OF THE AMERICAN SCENE TODAY." WITH REFERENCE TO GUNMAN'S ALLEGED COMMENT THAT HE "DID IT FOR MY COUNTRY," STANDARD SAID "HE MUST BE SICK MAN INDEED. FOR NO CIVILIZED COUNTRY CAN COUNTENANCE THE ANARCHY OF ASSASSINATION."

3. DAR-BASED ALL-AFRICAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION ISSUED STATEMENT JUNE 5 WARNING AFRICANS AGAINST FRATERNIZATION WITH U.S. ALL-CAPITALIST SYSTEMS, AND WORSHIPPING OF DOLLAR. ATTACKS ON DR. KING AND SENATOR KENNEDY WERE CHARACTERIZED AS RESULTS OF DECADENCE OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND OF "CAPITALIST DEMOCRACY" HELD UP FOR AFRICANS TO EMULATE.

4. NO OFFICIAL COMMENT AS YET FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 03466 061644Z

OR OTHER TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT FIGURES. EMBASSY OFFICER WAS TELEPHONED JUNE 5 BY LEADER OF LOCAL REFUGEE POLITICAL ORGANIZATION WHO DELIVERED HIMSELF OF PASSIONATE DENUNCIATION OF " YOU AMERICANS. YOU KILL YOUR OWN LEADERS. YOU KILL EVERYBODY." CALLER LATER APOLOGIZED FOR OUTBURST, BUT HIS GRIEF AND ANGER WERE REAL.

BURNS

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POH to US/Kennedy.
Department of State Robert F.
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 08639 062331Z

91
ACTION USIA 00

INFO ARA 08, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, EA 10, NIC 01, E 15, RSR 01, /088 W

P 062100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2120
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONGEN SAO PAULO
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USCINCSO FOR POLAD

ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS-EMBASSY MESSAGE

USIAC

SUBJ: REACTIONS ROBERT KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. IN UNCLASSIFIED ROUNDUP CABLED SEPARATELY TODAY
WE DELIBERATELY OMITTED SOME OF MORE FAROUT COMMENT AND SPEC-
ULATION OF WHICH WE REPORT EXAMPLES HEREWITH.

2. COLUMN LEFTIST ULTIMA HORA SAYS FEW DOUBT
EXISTENCE IN US OF MAFIA IN SERVICE OF ULTRA-RE-
ACTIONARY POLITICIANS, AND EDITORIAL ASSERTS THIS
GROUP PREVENTED TESTIMONY WHICH WOULD HAVE IDENTIFIED
KILLER OF JOHN KENNEDY. ANOTHER COLUMNIST SAME
PAPER SAYS KILLERS REPRESENT SAME FORCES INTERESTED
IN MAINTAINING WAR IN VIETNAM AND WHO MURDERED
MARTIN LUTHER KING, NAMELY U.S. INDUSTRIAL-
MILITARY COMPLEX. STILL ANOTHER COLUMN SAME
PAPER IMPLIES FORCES OF JAMES HOFFA TO

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6/6/68

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 RIO DE 08639 062331Z

BLAME. ANOTHER COMMENTATOR SAME PAPER SAYS IT WAS ACT OF PRIVILEGED POLITICIANS TO GET RID OF IRRITATING CANDIDATE TO AVOID NEED OF ASSASSINATING HIM LATER AS PRESIDENT.

3. PROFESSOR SOBRAL PINTO IN A NOTICIA SAYS KILLING WAS BRUTAL EXPRESSION OF HATE AND SAVAGERY WHICH EXISTS IN US TODAY.

4. COLUMN "PERISCOPIO" IN DIARIO DE NOTICIAS CALLS IT "MONSTROUS CONSPIRACY." SAME PAPER PRESENTS POLL (PRESUMABLY BY TELEPHONE) OF BRAZILIAN INTELLECTUALS GIVING THEIR FEELING THAT ASSASSINATION REFLECTS CURRENT WAVE OF VIOLENCE IN WHICH NO CONTROVERSIAL FIGURE IS SAFE. HERON DOMINGUES COLUMN SAME PAPER IMPLIES CONNECTION WITH ASSASSINATIONS OF JOHN KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING.

5. TV COMMENTATOR DAVID NASSER LAST NIGHT SAID THAT WHILE LATIN AMERICA EXILES POLITICAL LEADERS, US MURDERS THEM.

6. WHILE CONFIRMED ANTI-AMERICANS OBVIOUSLY HAVE SOUGHT TO PUT WORST FACE ON EVENTS, MANY FRIENDLY OBSERVERS ALSO SEEM CONVINCED OF CONSPIRACY. THIS INCLUDES BRAZILIAN FRIENDS WHO HAVE VISITED EMBASSY TO EXPRESS PERSONAL SYMPATHY.

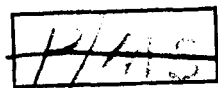
7. FROM FOREGOING, AND FROM TENOR OF UNCLASSIFIED ROUNDUP SEPARATE TELEGRAM, CAN BE SEEN THAT GENERAL IMAGE OF US SOCIETY BADLY DAMAGED. MEDIA COMMENTS OF SYMPATHY OR PRAISE FOR KENNEDY WERE FAR, FAR OUTWEIGHED BY EXTENSIVE STORIES AND COMMENT WHICH STRESS ASPECTS OF CHRONIC VIOLENCE AND CONSPIRACY. TUTHILL

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 6, 1968

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ACTION
is assigned to



Dear Mr. Secretary:

Herewith for the files of the Department of
State is a copy of the proclamation entitled
"Death of Robert F. Kennedy."

GPD
RS/R

Sincerely,

William J. Hopkins
Executive Assistant
to the President

(2)
6-868
The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

✓
Enclosure

OFFICE OF MEDIA SERVICES

JUN 11 1968

MAGAZINE AND SPECIAL
SERVICES DIVISION

MICROFILMED BY ECR

13207

POL & US / KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 6, 1968

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES:

A noble and compassionate leader, a good and faithful servant of the people, in the full vigor of his promise, lies dead from an assassin's bullet.

The tragedy and the senseless violence of Robert F. Kennedy's death cast a deep shadow of grief across America and across the world.

This is a moment for all Americans to join hands and walk together through this dark night of common anguish into a new dawn of healing unity.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States, do call upon all Americans to observe Sunday next, the ninth day of June, as a day of national mourning in his memory throughout the United States. In our churches, in our homes, and in our hearts let us resolve before God and before each other that the purpose of progress and justice for which Robert F. Kennedy lived shall endure.

I direct that until interment the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff on all buildings, grounds and naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions.

I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Department of State

ROBERT F.
TELEGRAM

(55) UNCLASSIFIED 192

PAGE 01 BAMAKO 01856 061831Z

46
ACTION AF 15

INFO H 02, SS 20, CPR 02, P 04, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, /055 W

P 061758Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1500
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS BAMAKO 1856

SUBJ: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. FIRST REACTION KENNEDY DEATH THAT OF MAN IN STREET. THERE IS SHOCK, SORROW, DISBELIEF, CONTEMPT, ANGER AND EVEN READINESS BELIEVE ASSASSINATION CONNECTED SOMEHOW WITH ASSASSINATIONS PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, WITH COLLECTIVE GUILT BEING ASCRIBED AMERICAN PEOPLE.

2. FIRST MEDIA COVERAGE SINCE ANNOUNCEMENT KENNEDY DEATH WAS ON RADIO MALI NOON BROADCAST WHICH GAVE FACTUAL SUMMARY OF LAST TWELVE HOURS, DESCRIPTION AND MOTIVES OF ASSASSIN. SCHLESINGER QUOTED AS SAYING IN SPEECH IN NEW YORK LAST EVENING AMERICAN PEOPLE "TERRIFYING" (EFFRAYANT) AND THAT VIOLENT NATURE AMERICA HAS ROOTS IN MASSACRE INDIANS, USE OF NEGRO AS SLAVE AND WAR IN VIETNAM. ATTENTION ALSO GIVEN TO REACTION HARLEM.

3. CLEARER PICTURE OF OFFICIAL MALIAN REACTION SHOULD EMERGE WITH PUBLICATION TOMMORROW'S L'ESSOR, US-RDA DAILY. MOORE

(1) UNCLASSIFIED

Bamako 1856
6/6/68

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POK 6 NS/Kennedy, Robert F.



Department of State

TELEGRAM

25

UNCLASSIFIED 690

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44

ACTION EA 15

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, SS 20, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, H 02, RSR 01,

RSC 01, /055 W

O 061255Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7994

UNCLAS BANGKOK 15695

FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN ISSUED TO PRESS HERE:

THIS EVENING, AMERICANS HERE ARE PROFOUNDLY SHOCKED AND FULL OF SORROW OVER THE TRAGIC, UNTIMELY DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND THEY FEEL THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR HIS BEREAVED FAMILY. A MAN OF GREAT ABILITY AND HIGH IDEALS, HE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR THE ENERGETIC AND COURAGROUS SERVICE RENDERED HIS COUNTRY BOTH IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS RESPECTED FOR THE DEEP SENSE OF DEDICATION WHICH LED HIM TO SEEK HIS NATION'S HIGHEST OFFICE. SENATOR KENNEDY WAS THE VICTIM OF A SENSELESS ACT OF VIOLENCE WHICH AMERICANS DEPLORE AS A NATION AND AS A PEOPLE. UNGER

Bangkok 15695
6-6-68

(1)

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

45
POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F. #

UNCLASSIFIED 378

XPOLW 1445

PAGE 01 PARIS 15727 01 OF 02 062019Z

81
ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

DODE 00, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, /074 W

R 061736Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PARIS 15727

THE ATTEMPT ON SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY OVERSHADOWED THE STRIKE SITUATION AND THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AT HOME IN THE FRENCH NEWSPAPERS WHICH WENT TO PRESS BEFORE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SENATOR'S DEATH.

THE GAULLIST ORGAN LA NATION EDITORIALIZED: "HOW NOT TO ESTABLISH POINT OF SIMILARITY IN THE CRIMINAL ATTEMPTS AGAINST THE TWO BROTHERS AND THE ONE WHICH COST REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING HIS LIFE?... NOTHING IS CLEAR IN THE LOS ANGELES CRIME... WHAT HAVE THE KENNEDYS DONE TO BE THUS CONSIDERED AS NUISANCES THAT HAD TO BE ELIMINATED AT ANY COST? OF WHAT CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OR OF WHAT INTERESTS ARE THEY THE VICTIMS?" THE COMMUNIST ORGAN HUMANITE HEADLINED: "THE ATTEMPT ON ROBERT KENNEDY: NEW PHASE IN THE CONSPIRACY OF THE PARTY OF WAR." THE EDITORIAL --"THE CONSPIRACY"-- SAID: "IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT ROBERT KENNEDY WAS HIT AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUCCESS HE HAD JUST WON IN THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES NOTABLY IMPROVED HIS CHANCES IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION." THE FINANCIAL DAILY LES ECHOS EDITORIALIZED: "ONE OF THE MOST GIFTED YOUNG POLITICIANS IN THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE BY THE BULLETS OF A KILLER. AMERICAN JUSTICE WILL HAVE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CRIME OF AN ISOLATED ELEMENT IS INVOLVED OR WHETHER THE LONG CHAIN OF KILLERS WHO, IN LESS THAN FIVE YEARS, SHOT DOWN SOME OF THE MOST ARDENT AND RESPECTED LEADERS OF THE REFORMIST MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES WAS RAISED UP AND ARMED BY POLITICAL FANATICS. AS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, IT BELONGS TO THEM TO PONDER ON THE CAUSES AND THE MEANING OF THAT RESORT TO

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6-6-68



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VIOLENCE IN A STATE WHERE DEMOCRACY IS READILY CITED AS AN EXAMPLE... BOB KENNEDY'S REMOVAL FROM THE RACE IS LIKELY TO FALSIFY THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION FOR WHICH THE AMERICANS ARE PREPARING. INDEED THE LEFTIST TENDENCY IS STILL REPRESENTED BY SENATOR MCCARTHY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. THE BROTHER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, HOWEVER, WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE BATTLE WITH BETTER TRUMPS THAN HIS RIVAL. NOW, THE WAY APPEARS CLEAR FOR VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY IN THE DEMOCRATIC CAMP."

FIGARO FEATURED ON PAGE ONE AN ARTICLE BY WRITER ROMAIN GARY WHO REVEALED THAT ROBERT KENNEDY TOLD HIM A FORTNIGHT AGO: "I KNOW THAT, SOONER OR LATER, THERE WILL BE A CRIMINAL ATTEMPT. NOT SO MUCH FOR POLITICAL REASONS: BECAUSE OF CONTAGIOUSNESS... OF EMULATION. WE LIVE IN AN ERA OF EXTRAORDINARY PSYCHIC CONTAGIOUSNESS. BECAUSE A GUY KILLS MARTIN LUTHER KING HERE, ANOTHER 'CONTAMINATED' FELLOW WILL IMMEDIATELY TRY TO KILL A GERMAN STUDENT LEADER." M. CHATELAIN REMARKED IN ANOTHER ARTICLE: "JOHN KENNEDY WAS SAID TO HAVE A SORT OF INSTINCTIVE FOREKNOWLEDGE. DID HE KNOW THAT HE WAS UNDER A DEFERRED SENTENCE OF DEATH? PEOPLE SAID IT... THE ARTICLE BY ROMAIN GARY SEEMS INDEED TO CONFIRM THAT HE (ROBERT KENNEDY) HAD FORESEEN HIS FATE."

ROGER MASSIP NOTED, ALSO IN FIGARO: "ONE CAN ALREADY HOLD AS CERTAIN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ROBERT KENNEDY FROM THE ELECTORAL SCENE. THE CONSEQUENCES FROM THE ATTEMPT ARE GOING TO UPSET THE ELEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN. SPECULATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS ALREADY GO AT A GOOD ROUND PACE. ONE OF THEM CONCERNS THE CHANCES OF EUGENE MCCARTHY SINCE THE RESULTS OF THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES SHOWED THAT THE SENATOR OF MINNESOTA AND ROBERT KENNEDY COULD MUSTER TOGETHER 80-0/0 OF THE VOTES. WILL NOT THE PEOPLE WHO VOTED FOR THE SENATOR OF NEW YORK BE TEMPTED TO TRANSFER THEIR SUFFRAGES TO MCCARTHY RATHER THAN... WALLNER

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RECEIVED/RECEIVED, REFLECT 47

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PAGE 01 PARIS 15727 02 OF 02 062031Z

81
ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

DODE 00, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, NEA 13, /087 W
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R 061736Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2726
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 PARIS 15727

TO VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY? ANOTHER ASSUMPTION EXPECTS THE ATTEMPT TO BE BENEFICIAL TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY SINCE AN ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS CANDIDATE HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. IN A FEW SECONDS TIME, EVERYTHING ASSUREDLY HAS BEEN CHALLENGED AGAIN."

R. FAURE WROTE IN AURORE: "AS JOHN KENNEDY, ROBERT TOOK SIDES ON ALL PROBLEMS: AGAINST RACIAL VIOLENCE, FOR A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM, FOR ISRAEL... AT LEAST, THE LOS ANGELES TRAGEDY DOES NOT SEEM SHROUDED IN THE SAME MYSTERY AS THE ONE IN DALLAS. DID NOT THAT YOUNG PALESTINE ARAB EMPTYING HIS PISTOL ON THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN THE EVENING OF HIS VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES WANT TO PUNISH THE MAN WHO HAD SUPPORTED THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN THEIR DEFENSE OF THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE, IN THE STYLE OF THE EL FATAH SUICIDE COMMANDO TEAMS? THIS IS BELIEVABLE. BUT BOB KENNEDY MAY QUITE AS WELL HAVE FALLEN UNDER THE BLOWS FROM THE MAFFIA... OR UNDER THE SAME BULLETS AS THOSE WHICH KILLED REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING. ANYWAY, HIS RACE TO THE WHITE HOUSE IS FINALLY BROKEN BUT MAY OPEN THE WAY FOR EUGENE MC CARTHY, THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE WHOSE LIBERAL IDEAS ARE CLOSEST TO HIS OWN."

MICHEL VOIROL WROTE IN COMBAT: "SO MANY PEOPLE WERE INTERESTED IN THE ELIMINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY THAT THE ASSUMPTION OF A PLOT CANNOT BE RULED OUT. IN THAT CASE THE PERSONALITY OF THE MURDERER WOULD ONLY BE A CLEVER DEVICE TO CONFUSE TRACKS. AMERICAN AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION THIS TIME WILL NOT ACCEPT THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE ASSASSIN AND THE BURIAL OF THE AFFAIR UNDER ANOTHER WARREN REPORT."

LE MONDE EDITORIALIZED: "WILL THIS MURDEROUS MADNESS EVER STOP?"

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PAGE 02 PARIS 15727 02 OF 02 062031Z

LESS THAN FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DALLAS TRAGEDY, TWO MONTHS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, ANOTHER POLITICAL CRIMINAL ATTEMPT PROFOUNDLY SHATTERS THE SELF-CONFIDENCE OF AMERICA. FOR, APART FROM NAZI LEADER LINCOLN ROCKWELL, ALL THE VICTIMS OF THAT VIOLENCE BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF LIBERALS AND ADVOCATES OF INTEGRATION. IF THE ASSASSINS ARE UNBALANCED PEOPLE, THEY NEVERTHELESS CHOOSE THEIR VICTIMS IN THE SAME CAMP AND, IN PREFERENCE, AMONG THE MEN WHO EMBODY THE IMAGE WHICH PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF PERSONAL SYMPATHIES, LIKE TO ASCRIBE TO AMERICA. FROM DALLAS TO LOS ANGELES, TRAGEDY COMES ONCE AGAIN UPON A FAMILY WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SPARED MANY OTHER ORDEALS, DESPITE EVERY EXTERNAL SIGN OF SUCCESS IN A SOCIETY MERCILESS TO WEAK AND ERRATIC PEOPLE. BOTH ADMIRER AND CONTROVERSIAL, OBJECTS OF ENVY AND JEALOUSY, THE KENNEDYS APPEAR TO BE A CHOICE TARGET FOR EMBITTERED AND NEUROTIC PEOPLE, AND ALSO PERHAPS FOR ALL PEOPLE DISQUIETED BY A PROFOUND ASPIRATION TO THE RENEWAL OF A CIVILIZATION SHAKEN BY ALARMING CRIMES. VIOLENCE IS EVERYWHERE, IN THE BIG CITIES PREY TO RACIAL STRIFE, AMONG A YOUTH WHICH CONFUSELY FEELS AN IRREPRESSIBLE UNEASINESS, AMONG THE POOR AND LOWLY WHO DID NOT FIND THEIR PLACE IN THE SUN, AS AMONG THE HAVES, AMONG THE ORGANIZED GANGS AGAINST WHICH THE POLICE WAGE A LITTLE EFFECTIVE STRUGGLE, BUT ALSO AMONG THE RIGHT THINKERS WHO, IN THE MILLIONS, JOIN SHOOTING CLUBS IN ORDER TO ASSURE THEIR OWN DEFENSE."

FRENCH COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS COVERED EXTENSIVELY THE TRAGEDY AS IT DEVELOPED -- ESPECIALLY EUROPE NUMBER ONE, WHICH HAPPENED TO HAVE THREE CORRESPONDENTS ON THE SPOT. THE GOVERNMENT-RUN RADIO AND TV CURRENTLY ON STRIKE ONLY HAD BRIEF NEWS SUMMARIES DRAFTED BY A FEW NON-STRIKING JOURNALISTS.
WALLNER

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F. ⁴⁴

UNCLASSIFIED 618 PR Pol 15-6 US

PAGE 01 062329Z

82

ACTION CPR 01

INFO GPM 04, INR 07, RSR 01, FILE 01, SS 20, H 01, /035 W

P 062057Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 9/68 1835 J-3 SENDS

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

REF: JCS 1798/061122Z JUN 68

1. REFERENCE PROVIDED GUIDANCE CONCERNING
FLYING OF US FLAG DURING NATIONAL MOURNING
ON DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

2. SUNDAY, 9 JUN 68, HAS BEEN DECLARED A
NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR SENATOR
KENNEDY BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

3. ALL US NATIONAL FLAGS, THEREFORE, WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FLOWN AT HALF STAFF THROUGH
9 JUN 68

*Joint Chief of Staff
6/6/68*

1/11/68

(2)

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

XR POL 13-10 ARAB

Department of State

TELEGRAM

26

UNCLASSIFIED 206

PAGE 01 LONDON 09621 061845Z

47

ACTION EUR 20

INFO AF 09, NEA 13, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 03, CU 04, SY 03,

RSR 01, NIC 01, /134 W

P R 061805Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4015
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS LONDON 9621

SUBJ KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. FOL. IS TEXT JUNE 6 EVENING STANDARD ARTICLE BY OFTEN-
SENSATIONALISTIC JON KIMCHE, FORMER EDITOR JEWISH OBSERVER.

2. QTE RESPONSIBLE ARAB LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEEN
GRAVELY CONCERNED IN RECENT WEEKS OVER THE ACTIVITIES OF SPECIAL
EMISSARIES OF THE PALESTINIAN FATAH TERRORIST MOVEMENT HERE
AND IN THE U.S.A. THESE HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE AMONG
THE MANY THOUSANDS OF ARAB STUDENTS IN LONDON, OXFORD,
MANCHESTER AND OTHER CENTRES. THE HEAD OF THE FATAH MOVEMENT,
YASIR ARAFAT, WAS IN LONDON TWO WEEKS AGO TRAVELLING UNDER AN
ASSUMED NAME AND WITH A JORDANIAN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. HIS
FRIENDS EXPECT HIM TO BE HERE AGAIN THIS WEEKEND IN PREPARATION
FOR A JORDAN REFUGEE WEEK WHICH HAS BEEN ORGANIZED BY A GROUP
OF MPS AND SYMPATHISERS. BUT THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR THE CONCERN
OF THE RESPONSIBLE ARAB LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY IS THE OUTCOME
OF A CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN ARAB STUDENT MOVEMENT WHICH TOOK

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LONDON 0621

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 LONDON 09621 061845Z.

PLACE IN MUNICH BETWEEN MAY 21-26. THE CONFERENCE WAS ATTENDED BY 32 DELEGATES REPRESENTING ARAB STUDENT ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE AND THOSE IN THE U.S., EGYPT, THE LEBANON AND IRAQ. IT WAS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MOST OF THE LEADERS AT THE CONFERENCE BELONG TO A DISTINCTLY POST-GRADUATE AGE GROUP. THE CONFERENCE PASSED TWO MANDATORY RESOLUTIONS AFTER ADDRESSES FROM LEADING ARAB NATIONALISTS FROM LIBYA, KUWAIT, JORDON AND SYRIA. THE MAIN RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED BY DR. HASHEM BAGHI, WHO CAME FROM PARIS. THIS URGED ALL STUDENT ORGANISATIONS TO REJECT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND TO REJECT ALSO ALL LEADERS WHO URGE SUCH A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. IT TOLD STUDENT ORGANISATIONS "TO OUST ALL SELFISH LEADERS" WHO STAND IN THEIR WAY. EVEN MORE POINTED WAS THE SECOND RESOLUTION WHICH THE CONFERENCE PASSED AFTER MUCH HEART-SEARCHING. IT INSTRUCTED ALL ARAB STUDENT ORGANISATIONS TO ESTABLISH DIRECT LIAISON WITH THE PALESTINE RESISTANCE ORGANISATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE TERRORIST FATAH. THIS WAS PROPOSED BY THE SYRIAN, DR. DAQAQ. THE CONFERENCE ELECTED A THREE-MAN DIRECTORATE CONSISTING OF DR. BAGHI, DR. DAQAQ AND ABDUL RAZZAQ AL BESHIR TO COORDINATE OPERATIONS WITH THE FATAH LEADERS. THE CONFERENCE ENDED ON MAY 26 FIVE DAYS LATER. CAMILIE CHAMOUN, A FORMER LEBANESE PRESIDENT AND FOREMOST OPPONENT OF PRESIDENT NASSER WHO HAD JUST WON AN ELECTORIAL VICTORY WAS SHOT AND WOUNDED. DURING THESE LAST 10 DAYS A NEW RADIO STATION BROADCASTING ON AN EGYPTIAN WAVELENGTH CALLED THE VOICE OF FATAH HAS BEEN CALLING DAILY FOR THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE ATTACK ON ISRAEL AND HER FRIENDS. DAILY BULLETINS GIVE LISTS OF ATTACKS CARRIED OUT AND CASUALTIES INFLICTED. IN 10 DAYS THESE ALMOST WHOLLY FICTITIOUS COMMUNIQUE HAVE CLAIMED MORE ISRAELI CASUALTIES THAN THE ISRAELIS SUFFERED DURING THE SIX - DAY WAR LAST YEAR. THE FACTS MAY BE FALSE BUT THERE IS NO MISTAKING THE TONE OF MOUNTING HYSTERIA AND EXCITEMENT OF THESE VERY EFFECTIVE BROADCASTS FROM CAIRO. LAST FRIDAY PRESIDENT NASSER'S LEADING SPOKESMAN MR. HEIKAL DEVOTED HIS ENTIRE WEEKLY ARTICLE WHICH IS BROADCAST TO THE WHOLE ARAB WORLD TO AN ALL-OUT ATTACK ON PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND AMERICAN POLICY. A FINGER ON THE TRIGGER WAS IN BEVERLY HILLS, BUT THE INSPIRATION UNDOUBTEDLY CAME FROM OUTSIDE THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL. UNQTE. BRUCE

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POL 6 US/ KENNEDY,

ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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CONFIDENTIAL 228

PAGE 01 LONDON 09616 061758Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SS 20, L 03, SY 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, RSR 01, /106 W

R 061730Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4010
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 9616

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: STATE 176785

1. JUNE 6 FINANCIAL TIMES REFERS BRIEFLY TO STATEMENT
ATTRIBUTED TO DR. MOHAMED MEDHI, SECRETARY OF "EXTREMIST
ACTION COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN-ARAB RELATIONS." (MEHDI REPORTEDLY
SAID HIS ORGANIZATION APPALLED BY SIRHAN'S ACT, BUT IT
REFLECTED "FRUSTRATION OF MANY ARABS WITH AMERICAN POLITICIANS
WHO HAVE SOLD THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE TO THE ZIONIST
JEWISH VOTERS.")

2. FONOFF (COLLINGS, NEWS DEPT) CALLED TO ASK IF MEDHI'S
VIEWS SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY IN TERMS BBC COVERAGE. AFTER
EMBOFF DESCRIBED MEDHI'S OPERATION, COLLINGS SAID SHE WOULD
ADVISE BBC AGAINST GIVING PLAY TO THIS ITEM. GP-3.
BRUCE

LONDON 0615

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CONFIDENTIAL

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POL 6 US / Kennedy
Department of State / Robert F. Kennedy
TELEGRAM
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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00477 061859Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 200H 020NSC 100CIAE 000DODE 000INR 070NSAE 000P 040RSC 010

USIA 120RSR 010777 W

R 061709Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 720

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 477

SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION

FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION COMMENTS PRIMIN BJARNI BENEDIKTSSON ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION AS PUBLISHED VISIR JUNE 6: " THIS IS TOO SAD FOR WORDS, AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS IT FURTHER. PEOPLE STILL HAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS HORRENDOUS ACT. THAT IS ALL THE MORE REASON TO BE WARY OF THE SPIRIT OF VIOLENCE NOW POISONING THE WORLD." ROLVAAG

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Pal to US/Kennedy, 25

Robert F.

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PAGE 01 071507Z

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ACTION CPR 02

INFO AF 06,ARA 08,EA 06,EUR 08,NEA 06,RSC 01,GPM 04,INRI 07,H 01,

RSR 01,050 W

P 062057Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 9/68 1835 J-3 SENDS

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

REF: JCS 1798/061122Z JUN 68

1. REFERENCE PROVIDED GUIDANCE CONCERNING
FLYING OF US FLAG DURING NATIONAL MOURNING
ON DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

2. SUNDAY, 9 JUN 68, HAS BEEN DECLARED A
NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR SENATOR
KENNEDY BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

3. ALL US NATIONAL FLAGS, THEREFORE, WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FLOWN AT HALF STAFF THROUGH
9 JUN 68

*Just tel'd of staff
6/6/68*

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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6-6-68
5/72

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05172 061415Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,P 04,USIA 12,NSC 10,SSO 00,RSR 01,RSC 01,1067

R 061340Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5994

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5172

1. KEYHAN JUNE 6 REPORTS FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT BY SHAH TO
MRS. ROBERT KENNEDY:

"EMPRESS FARAH AND I WERE DEEPLY MOVED WHEN WE RECEIVED THE TRAGIC
AND SHAKING NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF YOUR HUSBAND. WE
EXPRESS OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY AND WISH THAT YOU KNOW OUR THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS IN THIS DIFFICULT MOMENT ARE WITH YOU." HARLAN

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TELEGRAM

Pal 6 45/Kennedy, Robert F.

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XR Pal 15-1 45/Johnson

PAGE 01 070148Z

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ACTION SS 20

INFO P 03, CPR 01, H 01, SSO 00, INR 07, GPM 04, RSR 01, FILE 01, /038 W

P 062055Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 8/68 1834 J-3 SENDS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION AND
STATEMENT

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE PRESIDENTIAL
PROCLAMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES:

A NOBLE AND COMPASSIONATE LEADER, A GOOD
AND FAITHFUL SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE, IN THE
FULL VIGOR OF HIS PROMISE, LIES DEAD FROM
AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

THE TRAGEDY AND THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE OF
ROBERT F. KENNEDY'S DEATH CASTS A DEEP
SHADOW OF GRIEF ACROSS AMERICA AND ACROSS
THE WORLD.

PAGE 2 RUEOJFA 0098 UNCLAS

THIS IS A MOMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN
HANDS AND WALK TOGETHER THROUGH THIS DARK
NIGHT OF COMMON ANGUISH INTO A NEW DAWN OF
HEALING UNITY.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, PRESI-
DENT OF THE UNITED STATES, DO CALL UPON ALL
AMERICANS TO OBSERVE SUNDAY NEXT, THE NINTH
DAY OF JUNE, AS A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING
IN HIS MEMORY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.
IN OUR CHURCHES, IN OUR HOMES, AND IN OUR
HEARTS LET US RESOLVE BEFORE GOD AND BEFORE
EACH OTHER THAT THE PURPOSE OF PROGRESS AND
JUSTICE FOR WHICH ROBERT F. KENNEDY LIVED
SHALL ENDURE.

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*Print Chief of Staff
6/6/68*

U/M 15 00000000

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Department of State

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PAGE 02 070148Z

I DIRECT THAT UNTIL INTERMENT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF ON ALL BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND NAVAL VESSELS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.

PAGE 3 RUEQJFA 0098 UNCLWX

I ALSO DIRECT THAT THE FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF FOR THE SAME LENGTH OF TIME, AT ALL UNITED STATES EMBASSIES, LEGATIONS, CONSULAR OFFICES, AND OTHER FACILITIES ABROAD, INCLUDING ALL MILITARY FACILITIES AND NAVAL VESSELS AND STATIONS.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND THIS SIXTH DAY OF JUNE, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SECOND. /S/ LYNDON B. JOHNSON

2. STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT:

"THIS IS A TIME OF TRAGEDY AND LOSS.

SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS DEAD.

ROBERT KENNEDY AFFIRMED THIS COUNTRY--

AFFIRMED THE ESSENTIAL DECENCY OF ITS

PEOPLE, THEIR LONGING FOR PEACE, THEIR

DESIRE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR

ALL.

PAGE 4 RUEQJFA 0098 UNCLAS

DURING HIS LIFE, HE KNEW FAR MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF PERSONAL TRAGEDY.

YET HE NEVER ABANDONED HIS FAITH IN AMERICA.

HE NEVER LOST HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE SPIRITUAL

STRENGTH OF ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN. HE

BELIEVED IN THE CAPACITY OF THE YOUNG FOR

EXCELLENCE--AND IN THE RIGHT OF THE OLD AND

POOR TO A LIFE OF DIGNITY.

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 03 070148Z

OUR PUBLIC LIFE IS DIMINISHED BY HIS LOSS.
MRS. JOHNSON AND I EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY
TO MRS. KENNEDY AND HIS FAMILY. I HAVE ISSUED
A PROCLAMATION CALLING UPON OUR NATION TO
OBSERVE A DAY OF MOURNING FOR ROBERT KENNEDY..

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Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 02028 061835Z

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ACTION EA 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, CPR 02, RSR 01, /083 W

R 060700Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1716
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2028

SUBJ: NZ REACTION TO SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY

1. NZ HAS REACTED WITH SHOCK AND INCOMPREHENSION TO SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY. NEWS OF SHOOTING AND REPORTS OF SENATOR'S CONDITION RECEIVING MASSIVE NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE ALMOST WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN RECENT MEMORY. COVERAGE INCLUDES ALMOST UNHEARD OF STEPS OF NEWSPAPER EXTRA EDITIONS AND INTERRUPTION OF RADIO-TV PROGRAMS WITH SPOT BULLETINS. EMBASSY RECEIVING MANY TELEGRAMS AND INNUMERABLE PERSONAL EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND CONCERN.

2. PM HOLYOAKE HAS ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE THIS IS AN APPALLING TRAGEDY. IT IS TERRIBLE THAT THIS

GIFTED YOUNG MAN SHOULD BE SO GRIEVOUSLY WOUNDED AT A PEAK OF HIS CAREER. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT, TERRIBLE THOUGH THE TRAGEDY IS, SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE WILL BE SPARED. I KNOW ALL NZEALANDERS WILL JOIN ME IN EXTENDING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE SENATOR AND HIS FAMILY. UNQUOTE

3. PM TOLD PRESS HE HAD SENT FOLLOWING CABLE TO MRS. KENNEDY: QUOTE WE IN NZ WERE SHOCKED AND SADDENED BY THE NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON YOUR HUSBAND'S LIFE. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY I SHOULD LIKE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND OUR PRAYERS FOR YOUR HUSBAND'S RECOVERY. UNQUOTE

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4. IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED QUOTE THE ANGUISH OF AMERICAN UNQUOTE, WELLINGTON EVENING POST COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE HORRIFIED THOUGH THE WORLD MIGHT BE AT THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, IT IS STILL DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND FULLY THE STUNNED DESPAIR WHICH MUST AT THIS MOMENT HOLD THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN ITS GRIP. POLITICAL ASSASSINATION, LONG THOUGHT TO HAVE BECOME A THING OF A MORE VIOLENT LAWLESS PAST, HAS REAPPEARED AS A FACTOR IN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE. UNQUOTE

5. WELLINGTON DOMINION EDITORIAL ENTITLED QUOTE GUN LAW IN THE STATES UNQUOTE CONCLUDED WITH WHAT APPEARS TO BE UNIVERSAL NZ REACTION: QUOTE NZEALANDERS, AT THIS TIME, WILL FEEL PARTICULARLY FOR THEM, I.E., KENNEDY FAMILY) AND GENERALLY FOR MANKIND EVERYWHERE WHICH CHERISH THE FREEDOM OF THE DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE-- AND IS HORRIFIED TO OBSERVE THE EXCESSES IT SEEMS TO PERMIT. UNQUOTE. HENNING

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CPR 02,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,0 02,OPR 02,P 04,RSC 01,SS 20,SY 0

USIA 12,INS 03,VO 02,SCA 02,SS 00,RSR 01, /086 W

P R 062230Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5405

INFO RUESOE/AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS 816

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 2762

SUBJECT: PRD DELEGATION FOR KENNEDY FUNERAL

1. FOLLOWING PRD LEADERS GOING US FOR SENATOR KENNEDY FUNERAL:

A. SECGEN, JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ

B. PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SEC, DEPUTY EMMANUEL ESPINAL HERNANDEZ

C. PRES. DISCIPLINARY COUNCIL AND LEADER SENATE PRD BLOC, SENATOR SECUNDINO GIL MORALES. SENATORS'S WIFE ACCOMPANYING.

2. GROUP PLANS DEPART SANTO DOMINGO 1430 JUNE 7 ON PAA 234, ARRIVING NEW YORK 1900 EDT.

3. REQUEST DEPT URGENTLY INFORM INS ORDER TO FACILITATE ENTRY NEW YORK TO AVOID REPETITION EMBARRASSING CIRCUMSTANCES PENA GOMEZ' PREVIOUS ENTRY.

4. ESPINAL INFORMED EMBOFF GROUP THAT ALTHOUGH PLANS VAGUE, THEY EXPECT REMAIN US APPROX. ONE WEEK. SAID PENA GOMEZ MAY USE OPPORTUNITY SEE SOME US POLITICAL LEADERS, SUCH AS VICE-PRES AND SEN. MCCARTHY. EXEMPT. CRIMMINS

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00667 061753Z

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ACTION P 04

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIE 00, RSR 01, /069 W

R 061605Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1066
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS HELSINKI 667

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY

1. ASSASSINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY WAS GIVEN GREATER NEWS COVERAGE THAN ANY FOREIGN NEWS EVENT SINCE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN KENNEDY. STATEMENTS AND NEWS STORIES ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION INCLUDED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER CRITICISM OF CONDITIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. PRINCIPAL POLITICAL LEADERS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND SORROW. PRIME MINISTER KOIVISTO STATED: "IT IS TRAGIC TO OBSERVE THAT VIOLENCE ONCE AGAIN HAS STRICKEN PERSON WHOSE OWN POLITICAL ACTIVITY HAS STRIVED TO BRING CONFLICTS TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION... WORLD HAD HARDLY RECOVERED FROM OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE THAT RECENTLY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN UNITED STATES WHEN IT SUSTAINED THIS SHOCK. ENTIRE WORLD IS OBSERVING WITH FEAR AND APPREHENSION ALARMING INCREASE OF VIOLENCE IN UNITED STATES."

2. FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN SAID: "I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED OVER ATTEMPT TO MURDER SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY AND UTTERLY DISMAYED THAT SUCH VIOLENCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN OUR TIMES."

3. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION JOHANNES VIROLAINEN SAID: "I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THIS ATTEMPT TO MURDER SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY AND I AM PUZZLED BY THIS WAVE OF VIOLENCE."

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4. FINNISH RADIO, TELEVISION AND PRESS GAVE MAJOR COVERAGE TO ASSASSINATION. RADIO AND TELEVISION CARRIED BULLETINS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS. ALL HELSINKI NEWSPAPERS CARRIED EDITORIALS.

5. INDEPENDENT HELSINGIN SANOMAT STATED: IT MUST BE SAID THAT POLITICAL HATRED IN UNITED STATES HAS ATTAINED APPALLING PROPORTIONS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ASSASSIN HAS ACTED ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE OR CARRIED OUT DECISION OF A CONSPIRACY... IT IS NOT EASY TO FIND ANY POLITICAL MOTIVE IN HIS PROGRAM WHICH EXPLAINS THE MURDER OF ROBERT KENNEDY."

6 SWEDISH LANGUAGE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET STATED" "THERE ARE MANY INDICATIONS THAT AMERICAN SOCIETY IS APPROACHING STATE DISASTROUSLY CLOSE TO CHAOS. THREE POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS IN A COUNTRY LIKE THE UNITED STATES WITH ITS DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS AND ITS POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, MILITARY AND CULTURAL POWER IS A SIGN OF SICKNESS...."

7. CENTER PARTY SUOMENMAA: "IT DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE THAT THIS EVIL DEED COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT ADVANCE PLANNING OR THAT IT COULD BE THE ACT OF ONLY ONE MAN... PLANNERS OF THE MURDER WANTED THE COUNTRY'S POLICY OF WAR TO CONTINUE, THERE COULD BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. THIS IS SHOCKING DEMONSTRATION OF DEGREE OF GANGSTERISM INTO WHICH UNITED STATES HAS DRIFTED."

8. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SOSIALIDEMOKRAATTI SAID: "WHEN UNITED STATES ATTAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE IT WAS IDOL OF ALL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS. NOW IT SEEMS THAT THIS NOBLE DEMOCRACY IS SUFFERING MORE AND MORE FROM DISORDERLY FRAME OF MIND IN WHICH ITS ENTIRE FUTURE HAS BECOME DEPENDENT UPON CHANCE AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE."

9. SIMONIST PAIVAN SANOMAT STATED: "VIOLENCE HAS BECOME DEEPLY ROOTED IN AMERICAN SOCIETY. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT FATE OF ROBERT KENNEDY AS WELL AS THAT OF HIS OLDER BROTHER AND MARTIN LUTHER KING WILL AROUSE MORE AND MORE AMERICANS TO SEE DANGEROUS STATE OF THEIR SOCIETY AND TO DEMAND ACTION WHICH COULD HELP THIS SICK SOCIETY TO RECOVER."

10. COMMUNIST KANSAN UTISET WROTE: "WHO OPPOSED ROBERT KENNEDY'S POLICIES? ARMAMENT INDUSTRY, WHICH RECEIVES ITS PROFITS THROUGH EXPLOITATION OF NEGROES. THEIR MONEY CAN AFFORD TO HIRE PHILIPPINO OR WHITE MURDERERS... IN PRESENT SHRINKING WORLD EVERYBODY

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HAS RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT PEOPLE OF UNITED STATES TAKE POWER INTO
THEIR OWN HANDS AND OVERTHROW THIS 'STATE WITHIN A STATE' -
CIA AND ARMAMENT INDUSTRY AND THEIR HIRED ASSASSINS."
THOMPSON

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,RSR 01,070 W

P R 061850Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2108
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 RIO DE JANEIRO 8621

ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS/EMBASSY MESSAGE

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.
NEW OF KENNEDY DEATH REACHED BRAZIL 5:30
A.M. TOO LATE FOR MORNING PAPERS. FOLLOWING
IS ROUNDUP OF NEWS TREATMENT AND REACTION AS
OF NOON.

SUMMARY: DEVELOPMENT HAS COMPLETELY DOMINATED
ALL NEWS MEDIA PAST 24 HOURS. NO OTHER EVENT
OUTSIDE BRAZIL, AND ONLY ONE OF TWO WITHIN
BRAZIL, HAS RECEIVED SUCH EXTENSIVE AND INTENSIVE
NEWS COVERAGE HERE IN RECENT YEARS. ENTIRE
SECTIONS OF MAJOR PAPERS DEVOTED TO LOS ANGELES
AND RELATED EVENTS. TONE OF ALL COVERAGE REFLECTS
SHOCK AND SYMPATHY. MUCH COMMENT ON KENNEDY INTEREST
IN LATIN AMERICA AND HIS 1965 VISIT TO BRAZIL, EDITORIALS,
THINK PIECES AND COMMENTARIES PRESS RADIO TV COVER AT
GREAT LENGTH VARIETY OF THEMES ON WORLD VIOLENCE WITH
PARTICULAR ATTENTION AMERICAN VIOLENCE, OF WHICH
KENNEDY SHOOTING SEEN AS LATEST SYMPTOM. MUCH LINK-UP
WITH ASSASSINATION JOHN KENNEDY AND MANY EXPRESSIONS
CONSPIRACY THEORY.

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NEWS TREATMENT TODAY THURSDAY:

MODERATE, PRESTIGIOUS JORNAL DO BRASIL DEVOTED TWELVE PAGES TO KENNEDY SHOOTING AND RELATED MATTERS. TREATMENT RANGED OVER HISTORY KENNEDY FAMILY, BIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT, "COMMON DESTINY" OF JOHN AND ROBERT KENNEDY, ROBERT KENNEDY'S TRAVELS AND WRITINGS ON LATIN AMERICA, REACTION TO SHOOTING AS REPORTED FROM VARIOUS WORLD CAPITALS, PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S TV/RADIO SPEECH OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND APPOINTMENT OF MILTON EISENHOWER COMMISSION, PENTAGON ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS PUT ON ALERT. ARTICLE ON "THE ABC OF VIOLENCE" REVIEWS WORLD HISTORY OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS CONCENTRATING ON RECENT KILLINGS IN U.S., NOTING THAT "SINCE 1900 FIREARMS HAVE KILLED 800,000 AMERICANS, NOT INCLUDING THOSE KILLED IN WARS". ALSO CARRIES EDITORIAL, TWO SIGNED COLUMNS, AND SPECIAL COMMENTARY. SIMILARLY, INDEPENDENT CORREIO DA MANHA FRONT-PAGED SHOOTING AND DEVOTED SIX INSIDE PAGES TO RELATED MATTERS. CORREIO GAVE PROMINENCE TO MCCARTHY STATEMENT THAT WHOLE AMERICAN NATION IN PART TO BLAME, TO KENNEDY'S BOOK "FIGHT FOR A BETTER WORLD" WHICH ONLY RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN PORTUGUESE HERE, AND TO "THE TWO HUNDRED HOURS OF BOB IN BRAZIL" IN NOVEMBER 1965. CORREIO, AS OTHER PAPERS, CARRIES STATEMENTS OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR RELEASED BY EMBASSY YESTERDAY AND REPORTS STATEMENTS OF CHIEF IN BRAZILIAN CONGRESS. ENTIRE FRONT PAGE OF LEFTIST ULTIMA HORA DEALS WITH SHOOTING AND KENNEDY CONDITION, WHILE INSIDE PAGES GIVE HEAVY COVERAGE TO "THE AMERICAN TRAGEDY", USING PHOTOS OF ASSASSINATIONS OF JOHN KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JAMES MEREDITH, LEE HARVEY OSWALD. PAPER ALSO DEVOTES FULL PAGE SPREAD TO "RULE OF VIOLENCE" IN U.S. WITH PICTURES OF GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL, KU KLUX KLAN, MALCOLM X, ETC. OTHER PAPERS SIMILARLY CARRY EXTENSIVE NEWS COVERAGE, PHOTOS, BACKGROUNDERS AND SPECULATIVE ARTICLE. EDITORIAL REACTION: CONSERVATIVE O GLOBO: "A CRIME LIKE THIS, WHICH SHOCKS THE WORLD, AFFECTS NOT JUST ONE MAN BUT INSTITUTIONS THEMSELVES... THE DEATH OF ROBERT KENNEDY, WHICH DEPRIVES HUMANITY, MARKS THE FAITHLESSNESS WHICH IS

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MAKING OF THIS "CENTURY OF PROGRESS" A DARK ERA OF HISTORY."

COMMENTARY IN JORNAL DO BRASIL: "HOTLY DEBATED, PRINCIPALLY WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, THE IMAGE OF BOB KENNEDY ALWAYS WAS DIFFERENT IN THE REST OF THE WORLD. BEYOND AMERICAN BORDERS, JOHN AND BOB ALWAYS SIGNIFIED DIFFERENT NAMES FOR THE SAME POLITICAL IDEAL, WHICH TODAY MAKES THE KENNEDY NAME A SYNONYM FOR DEMOCRACY AND DESTINY."

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,RSR 01,070 W

P R 061850Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2109
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 RIO DE JANEIRO 8621
ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS/EMBASSY MESSAGE

ALBERTO DINES IN JORNAL DO BRASIL: "A SMALL SPARK WOULD INFLAME THE COUNTRY -- THIS WAS THE SENSATION WHICH HAS HUNG IN THE AIR IN RECENT DAYS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE DESTRUCTION IN FRANCE, THE SMALL BUT UNPRECEDENTED STUDENT INCIDENTS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, THE BITTER TASTE OF THE FAILURES IN VIETNAM, THE WAVE OF NEGRO REBELLION... HANGING IN THE AIR IS THE GREAT QUESTION: AFTER FRANCE, HAS THE TIME OF THE UNITED STATES COME," JORNAL DO BRASIL EDITORIAL: "THE ENTIRE WORLD WATCHES WITH HORROR THE VICTORY OF VIOLENCE OVER REASON. MEN EVERYWHERE ARE PERPLEXED BY THE WAVE OF TERROR WHICH SUBJUGATES THE REASONING OF INTELLIGENCE, AND WHICH DARES TO IMPOSE ITSELF AS A NORM FOR THE SOLUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN PROBLEMS:

DANTON JOBIM IN ULTIMA HORA: "HE WAS, PERHAPS, THE BEST OF WHAT THERE WAS IN AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE. HE LACKED NOTHING, NEITHER COURAGE NOR INTELLIGENCE, NOR YOUTH. HE REPRESENTED THE HOPE OF MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF HIS COMPATRIOTS TOUCHED BY THE MAGIC OF THE KENNEDY CLAN. NELSON MOTTA IN ULTIMA HORA: "THE ATTACK AGAINST BOB KENNEDY REPRESENTS THE SAME THING AS THE ASSASSINATION OF HIS BROTHER; THE ATTEMPT TO EXTINGUISH FOREVER A PHILOSOPHY FOR LIBERTY AND AGAINST PRIVILEGE AND INJUSTICE... THE FORCES OF REACTION, CONSERVATISM, SELFISH GAIN AND

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THE THIRST FOR POWER ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CRIME, NOT AGAINST ROBERT F. KENNEDY BUT AGAINST ALL THOSE WHO STILL HAVE HOPE. THE STRIKE AGAINST BOB, INSTEAD OF BEING A MORTAL BLOW TO THE WEAK AND OPPRESSED WHOM HE DEFENDS, REPRESENTS A RENEWAL OF THE CALL. IT CREATES INDIGNATION IN THE HEART OF HUMANITY, REPRESENTS A STATE OF AFFAIRS WHICH SHOULD NOT WILL NOT CONTINUE". MOACIR WERNECK IN ULTIMA HORA: "DESPITE THE WARREN REPORT AND THE DILIGENT EFFORT OF THE WHITE HOUSE TO BURY THE CASE, THERE ARE STILL JUSTIFIED DOUBTS AS TO THE AUTHOR OF JOHN KENNEDY' DEATH. MORE THAN THE ISOLATED ACT OF A FANATIC, THAT ATTACK SEEMS TO HAVE INVOLVED A WHOLE GROUP OF PERSONS. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT ONE DAY IT WILL BE REVEALED AS THE RESULT OF A DARK POLITICAL CONSPIRACY."

HELIO FERNANDES IN RIGHTIST TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA: "WE ARE RETURNING TO THE CRUEL TIMES OF 1932, WHEN THE GREAT DEPRESSION CREATED IN GANGSTERISM A FORM OF REVOLT OF MAN AGAINST THE SYSTEM, BUT THROUGH THE ERRONEOUS MEANS OF BANDITY. NOW IT IS POLITICAL GANGSTERISM, IT IS THE PURE AND SIMPLE ELIMINATION OF THOSE WHO, FIGHTING AT THE SIDE OF POPULAR MAJORITIES, DISTURB THE PRIVILEGES OF MINORITIES MADE COMFORTABLE BY WEALTH BUT MADE FEARFUL BY THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING IT". AUSTREGESILLO DE ATAIDE, PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS: "THIS ACT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WOUNDS NOT ONLY THE DEMOCRATIC CONSCIENCE OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE MEANING ITSELF OF DEMOCRACY IN THE ENTIRE WORLD". JOSE BONIFACIO, PRESIDENT OF FEDERAL CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, IN STATEMENT TO O GLOBO: "WE BRAZILIANS FEEL PROFOUND SADNESS, EVEN MORE BECAUSE ROBERT KENNEDY, WHEN HE WAS IN BRAZIL, LEFT US CERTAIN THAT HE WAS A GREAT DEMOCRAT, INTERESTED IN THE POLITICAL DESTINY OF THE WORLD". GILBERTO MARINHO, PRESIDENT OF SENATE: " ROBERT KENNEDY HAS PROVED HIMSELF, FOLLOWING THE SHINING STEPS OF HIS IMMORTAL BROTHER, AS ONE OF THE GREAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE IDEALISM AND THE UNIVERSAL CALLING OF HIS PEOPLE. THE ASSASSINATION SHOWS ONCE AGAIN THAT INTOLERANCE, HATRED, AND POLITICAL FANATISM ARE NOT DETERRED FROM FROM STRIKING AGAINST EVEN A LIFE FRUITFULL IN SERVICES TO HUMANITY, TO THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE, LIBERTY AND

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DEMOCRACY."

RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMENTATORS (TEXTS NOT AVAILABLE) HAVE REFLECTED SAME RANGE OF EDITORIAL REACTIONS, WITH MUCH EMPHASIS VIOLENCE THEME AND EVEN MORE ATTENTION TO CONSPIRACY THEORY THAN PRESS GIVES.

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, PC 04, O 02, OPR 02, OC 06, CCD 00

SY 03, E 15, COM 08, SAH 03, RSR 01, /153 W

R 061945Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4755

INFO AMCONSUL COCHABAMBA UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 4823

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: REACTION TO KENNEDY SHOOTING

REFERENCE: LA PAZ 4775

1. PUBLIC REACTION TO SHOOTING HAS BEEN ONE OF GREAT SHOCK AND DISTRESS. PRESIDENT BARRIENTOS EXPRESSED HORROR AND REGRET, ADDING IN OFFICIAL STATEMENT APPEARING AFTER NOTICE OF SENATOR'S DEATH THAT "FOR US BOLIVIANS, ROBERT KENNEDY, AS HIS GREAT BROTHER, JOHN F. KENNEDY, IS ANOTHER CATHOLIC LOST TO HUMANITY, A CHAMPION OF THE HUMBLE, OF THE PEOPLES OF LESSER DEVELOPMENT. HIS DEATH IS A HARD BLOW FOR BOLIVIA AND FOR OTHER NATIONS OF THE CONTINENT WHO JUSTLY EXPECTED A GREAT DEAL FROM THE IDEAS AND THE GENEROUS AND RENOVATING SPIRIT OF THE KENNEDYS, TRUE FRIENDS OF ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS." VICE PRESIDENT SILES, FOREIGN MINISTER GUILLERMO ELIO AND ACTING PRESIDENT OF SENAT MANFREDO KEMPF ALSO HAVE EXPRESSED PROFOUND REGRET.

2. HOWEVER, OTHER POLITICAL ELEMENTS, GENERALLY

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SPANNING POLITICAL SPECTRUM, FOCUS BITTER CRITICISM ON US SOCIETY AND HAVE CHOSEN TAKE APPROACH, IN KEEPING WITH NATURAL PREDISPOSITIONS, THAT RESPONSIBILITY LIES IN SO-CALLED REACTIONARY IMPERIALIST PLOT TO ROB WORLD OF DEMOCRATIC LEADERS AND TO SUBJUGATE ASPIRATIONS OF COMMON PEOPLE.

3. PRESENCIA TOOK UNUSUAL STEP OF PUTTING OUT SPECIAL AFTERNOON EDITION JUNE 5, WHICH CONTAINED BITTER EDITORIAL BY CO-DIRECTOR ALBERTO BAILEY, WHO SPOKE OF US AS "SICK, MATERIALISTIC SUPER-CIVILIZATION" AND BLAMED ATTACK ON "FANATICS, EXPLOITERS AND GREAT INTERESTS THAT SYMBOLIC DECOMPOSITION US SOCIETY." ON JUNE 6 BAILEY REPEATED THEME THAT US IS SICK SOCIETY, BLAMING GREAT ECONOMIC INTERESTS THAT CONTINUE VIETNAM WAR, SUBJUGATE NEGROES AND IMPOSE TERMS ON UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IN JUNE 5 EDITORIAL JORNADA BLAMED SHOOTING ON DE-HUMANIZING EFFECTS US SOCIETY, ADDING "INVESTIGATIONS THAT FOLLOW SUCH CRIMES ARE GROSSLY FALSIFIED." IN SEPARATE SIGNED EDITORIAL, SANTIAGO BERRIOS SAID ATTACK WAS "REPLY OF GREAT IMPEIALIST INTERESTS" TO KENNEDY'S CALIFORNIA PRIMARY VICTORY.

5. ULTIMA HORA JUNE 5 DECLARED A "MONEY MAFIA" OF GREAT CONSORTIUMS EXISTS IN US, MANIPULATING POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND FAILING REALIZE THAT ITS TIME HAS PASSED.

6. EL DIARIO, WHOSE DIRECTOR, JORGE CARRASCO, DEPARTED TODAY FOR US ON LEADER GRANT, DID NOT OFFER EDITORIAL OPINION.

7. POLITICAL OPINION CARRIED BY PRESS: MPC EXPRESSED ITS REGRET IN LENGTHY AND BALANCED PUBLIC STATEMENT. PIR SUBCHIEF MIGUEL BONIFAZ SAID SHOOTING PROVES DEATH JOHN KENNEDY WAS PART OF SINISTER RACIST PLOT ELIMINATE ALL WHO FIGHT FOR RACIAL EQUALITY. FRANZ ONDARZA, MPC DEPUTY JUST RETURNED FROM US AND ALLEGEDLY A FRIEND OF SENATOR KENNEDY BLAMED "DARK AND CRIMINAL ELEMENTS AND REACTIONARY INTERESTS IN US, THE SAME WHO ASSASSINATED JFK." RICARDO ANAYA, LEADER OF PIR,

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USED HIS MARXIST TERMINOLOGY IN TELLING PRESS EVENT WAS NEW MANIFESTATION BRUTALITY BY ULTRA-REACTONARY US IMPERIALISTS WHO DESIRE DOMINATE AND EXPLOIT THE PEOPLE. BENJAMIN MIGUEL, SUBCHIEF OF PDC, SAID IT WAS ANOTHER EXPRESSION OF US DECADENT CAPITALISM, A USE OF FORCE AND CRIME "AS INSTRUMENTS OF CAPITALISM TO IMPOSE AN OLIGARCHICAL GOVERNMENT." RECTOR OF COCHABAMBA UNIVERSITY DECLARED IT REVEALED DARK INTERFERENCE OF GREAT ECONOMIC CONSORTIUMS THAT OPPOSE EVEN MINIMUM ADVANCE OPPRESSED MINORITIES. COCHABAMBA STUDENT FEDERATION SAID KENNEDY WAS VICTIM GREAT MONOPOLISTIC INTERESTS WHOSE IMPERIALIST POLICIES ARE DESIGNED TO SUBJUGATE THE PEOPLE.

8. PCB PRESS RELEASE CONDEMNED THE ACT AS "CRIME COMMITTED BY PARTISANS OF WAR AND THE GREAT ARMSMAKING MONOPOLIES."

9. COMMENT: AS BROTHER PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AS CATHOLIC, AND AS ATTRACTIVE YOUTHFUL LEADER, SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WAS UNQUESTIONABLY MOST POPULAR US POLITICIAN IN BOLIVIA. BOLIVIAN SENSE OF INDIGNATION APPEARS IN THIS INSTANCE TO HAVE SURPASSED SENSE OF GRIEF AND, CONSIDERING NATIONAL MOOD (LA PAZ 4805) WE BELIEVE SOME UNOFFICIAL ACTS OF HOSTILITY TOWARD AMERICAN ESTABLISHMENT IN BOLIVIA ARE WITHIN REALM OF POSSIBILITY. HENDERSON

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, NSC 10, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, DODE 00, GPM 04, SP 02,

US 20, RSR 01, L 03, H 02, 074 W

R 061715Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6604
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 7090

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE (HIS DEATH WAS ANNOUNCED AFTER ALL PAPERS HAD APPEARED OR GONE TO PRESS) HAS BEEN MAJOR NEWS STORY AND HAS BEEN GIVEN EDITORIAL TREATMENT IN ALL PAPERS PAST TWO DAYS. RADIO AND TV HAVE MODIFIED REGULAR SCHEDULES WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMS INCLUDING FILM FOOTAGE FROM LOS ANGELES. EDITORIAL COMMENT EPITOMIZED BY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND AMERICAN PEOPLE. MANY EDITORIALS, HOWEVER, INCLUDED CRITICAL REFERENCES TO ALLEGED ILLS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND SUGGESTIONS THAT CONSPIRACY INVOLVED.

2. SOME EXAMPLES: LA CITE (LABOR CATHOLIC) PLAYING ON CONSPIRACY THEME STATED THAT "ONE CONSPIRACY" HAD LED TO ASSASSINATIONS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING AND NOW SENATOR KENNEDY. PAPER FOLLOWED WITH ALLEGATION THAT AUTHORS OF SUCH ACTS USUALLY ACQUITTED IF THEIR VICTIM WAS NEGRO. MASS CIRCULATION LE SOIR (INDEPENDENT) RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT A "SINISTER CONSPIRACY" MIGHT EXIST TO ELIMINATE "MOST EMINENT LIBERAL LEADERS" IN U.S. EVEN IF SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WAS NOT DIRECT RESULT OF SUCH PLOT, PAPER SUGGESTED, IT HAD COME OUT OF CLIMATE OF EXTREME RIGHT-WING FANATICISM. THE U.S. FACED THE "GRAVEST INTERNAL CRISIS IN A CENTURY."

3. ANOTHER COMMON THEME WAS THAT ATTACK REFLECTED DEEP-ROOTED STRAIN OF VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN LIFE AND CHARACTER. SEVERAL PAPERS ATTACKED FAILURE TO PASS STRICT LAWS AGAINST THE SALE OF

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07090 061844Z

GUNS. HET VOLK (LABOR CATHOLIC) SPOKE OF " CULT OF VIOLENCE" IN U.S. AND HOPED THAT AMERICAN CONSCIENCE WOULD BE AWAKENED TO REPUDIATE THIS. DE NIEUWE GIDS (CATHOLIC) EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT ANY COUNTRY IN WHICH IT WAS " SO EASY" TO BUY ARMS WAS " MORALLY SICK."

4. INFLUENTIAL LA LIBRE BELGIQUE (CATHOLIC CONSERVATIVE) SPOKE OF DISTANCE YET REMAINING BEFORE TRULY " GREAT SOCIETY" COULD EXIST IN U.S. RAPIDLY INCREASING CRIME RATE AND WAVE OF VIOLENCE RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER US WAS " REGRESSING TO PRIMITIVE MORALITY OF IONEER DAYS." PROFOUND SOCIAL REFORMS WERE NECESSARY " TO RESTORE MORAL ORDER."

5. VOLKSGAZET (SOCIALIST) EXPRESSED OPINION THAT AMERICAN PRESTIGE ABORAD WOULD INEVITABLY BE DAMAGED BY THIS FURTHER ACT OF " BLIND VIOLENCE AND HATE." KNIGHT

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ROBERT F.

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 SALISB 00966 060815Z

18

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, H 02, SS 20, SSO 00, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, RSC 01,

RSR 01, /082 W

R 060715Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL SALISBURY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1117
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SALISBURY 966

SUBJ: GOVERNOR'S PRIVATE MESSAGE ON KENNEDY SHOOTING.

1. GOVERNOR SIR HUMPHREY GIBBS ASKED ME LAST NIGHT TO SEND TO KENNEDY FAMILY AND TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON HIS PRIVATE EXPRESSION OF SHOCK, GRIEF AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY OVER ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION SENATOR KENNEDY. GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IN RHODESIA HE COULD NOT SEND WRITTEN MESSAGE PURPORTING TO SPEAK FOR RHODESIANS AS WHOLE BUT HE WAS SURE HE EXPRESSED FEELINGS OF ALL DECENT RHODESIANS.

2. WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT, BELIEVE IT WOULD OFFER SOME MILD ENCOURAGEMENT TO GOVERNOR IN HIS LONELY ROLE HERE IF SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT COULD BE MADE OF HIS MESSAGE.

EXEMPT. O'NEILL

Salisbury 966
6/6/68

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POL 6 215 / KENNEDY, Robert F

Department of State

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 04830 061357Z

42

ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00 DODE 00 GPM 04 H 02 INR 07 L 03 NSAE 00 NSC 10 P 04

RSC 01 SP 02 SS 20 USIA 12 PC 04 AID 28 CFR 02 SAH 03 SA 01

EUR 15 RSR 01 134 W

R 061300Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5597

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TUNIS 4830

SUBJ: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. EDITORIAL IN OFFICIAL LIAISON EXPRESSED SHOCK AT ATTEMPTED MURDER AND AT FACT THAT POLITICAL ASSASSINATION WAS BECOMING INSTALLED IN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE. EDITORIAL PRAISED KENNEDY FOR HIS WORK TOWARD RACIAL EQUALITY, FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS, AND IN SUPPORT OF THE POOR. IT SAID U.S. WAS ENGAGED IN DECISIVE TURN IN ITS HISTORY AND THAT AFTER BECOMING ECONOMIC GIANT NEEDED TO BETTER ADAPT ITSELF TO ITS ROLE IN WORLD AND TO RECONCILE IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY, JUSTICE, AND PEACE. AMERICAN PEOPLE MUST OVERCOME THESE CONTRADICTIONS. EDITORIAL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT THE AGGRESSOR HAD IN THIS CASE BEEN TAKEN SAFE AND SOUND AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE INSTIGATORS OF THIS CRIME WOULD NOT ESCAPE JUSTICE AS PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S AND MARTIN LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINS APPARENTLY HAD.

2. PRESIDENT BOU GUISA ADDRESSED FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO MPS. KENNEDY: QUOTE IT IS WITH DEEP EMOTION AND TRUE INDIGNATION THAT I LEARNED THE NEWS OF THE ODIOUS ATTEMPT PERPETRATED AGAINST YOUR HUSBAND. WHILE EXPRESSING MY MOST FERVENT HOPES FOR THE QUICK RECOVERY OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, I BEG YOU, MADAME, TO ACCEPT THE EXPRESSION OF MY SINCERE SYMPATHY. END QUOTE.

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 04830 061357Z

3. TAP QUOTED OFFICIAL CIRCLES AS SAYING THAT QUOTE WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FOR FREE DIALOGUE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR THE EXPRESSION OF IDEAS BY A HEALTHY CONFRONTATION AND NOT BY VIOLENCE. WE CONDEMN THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION AND REGRET THAT SUCH HABITS ARE IN DANGER OF BEING INSTALLED IN A GREAT DEMOCRACY SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. END QUOTE

4. INDEPENDENT ARABIC AS-SABAH, AFTER EXPRESSING FEAR THAT SUCH INCIDENTS WERE DESTROYING AMERICAN SOCIETY, COMMENTED ON EARLY INFORMATION THAT SUSPECT WAS OF ARABIC ORIGIN. QUOTE IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE GROUPS WHO ARE USING FORCE CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING TO FEED AND MAINTAIN IT. THEY TRY NOW TO CREATE DOUBT, NOT AS FAR AS THE VICTIM IS CONCERNED, BUT TO MAKE BELIEVE THAT THE CRIMINAL WHO SHOT ROBERT KENNEDY IS OF ARABIC ORIGIN AND THAT HE (KENNEDY) IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CREATION OF ISRAEL, THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE, AND MADE JERUSALEM A JEWISH CITY. END QUOTE

5. ATTACK HAS BEEN MAJOR SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION IN STREETS AND CAFES AND FEELING OF SHOCK PREVAILS. BACKGROUND OF SUSPECT JUST BECOMING PUBLICLY KNOWN SO THIS NOT YET A FACTOR.

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POL 64S/Kennedy,
Robert F.
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PAGE 01 LISBON 01539 061643Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIE 00, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01,

NSC 10, SSD 01, PSR 01, /067 W

R 061545Z JUNE 68

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2153

INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

4/6/68

Lisbon
1539

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1539

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR KENNEDY

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. SHOOTING AND DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY HAS CREATED STRONG REACTION AMONG GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEDIA INCLUDING TV WITH ANTI-AMERICAN OVERTONES. INITIAL REACTION AMONG WORKING LEVEL GOVT OFFICIALS AND OTHER PERSONS IN CONTACT WITH EMBOFFS YESTERDAY IN ADDITION TO SHOCK AND HORROR WAS CHARACTERISTIC PORTUGUESE ONE THAT ATTACK WAS PART OF CONSPIRACY. CONCERN EXPRESSED BY SOME THAT VIOLENCE IN US WAS EXPRESSION OF MORE GENERALIZED MALAISE IN WESTERN SOCIETY.

2. SOME OF ABOVE REFLECTED IN GOVT-CONTROLLED MEDIA COVERAGE WHICH, HOWEVER, ALSO PLAYED THEME THAT ASSASSINATION WAS SYMPTOM OF DECADENT DEMOCRACY AND PECULIARLY VIOLENT ATMOSPHERE IN US WHICH HYPOCRITICALLY ESPOUSES IDEALIZED SOCIETY. THIS ASPECT PARTICULARLY PRONOUNCED IN TV BROADCAST LAST NIGHT WHICH SELF-RIGHTEOUSLY COMPARED STABILITY IN PORTUGAL WITH CONDITIONS IN US. GOVT PARTY DAILY DIARIO DA MANHA CARRIED PARTICULARLY BASTY EDITORIAL ENTITLED "IN THE FAR WEST."

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PAGE 02 LISBON 01539 061643Z

3. BEST ANSWER THIS ARGUMENT CARRIED IN INDEPENDENT DAILY O SEculo WHICH INTERVIEWED SEVERAL PROMINENT PORTUGUESE FIGURES, INCLUDING CATHOLIC OPPOSITIONIST AND EDITOR ALCADA BAPTISTA. AFTER DEPLORING ATTACK, BAPTISTA REMARKED IN COMMENT WHICH APPARENTLY ELUDED CENSOR "I THINK OF NEUROTIC SOCIETIES AND OF OPPRESSED SOCIETIES, OF SOCIETIES IN WHICH THE KENNEDYS AND THE LUTHER KINGS ARE STRUCK DOWN AND LEAVE US THE HOPE OF WHAT THEY WERE AND WHAT THEY DID. I THINK OF SOCIETIES IN WHICH THEY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE EVEN TO HAPPEN NOR WHERE WE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HEAR FROM THEM THE LESSONS OF COURAGE, OF LUCIDITY AND OF LIBERATION."

4. SEVERAL HUNDRED TELEPHONE CALLS RECEIVED SO FAR EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON PART OF OFFICIALS, DIPLOMATS AND ORDINARY PEOPLE. OTHERS ARE STOPPING AT CHANCERY TO LEAVE CONDOLENCE CARDS OR TO SIGN BOOK PROVIDED FOR PURPOSE.

5. FACT THAT ASSASSIN WAS JORDANIAN NATIONAL AND THAT ASSASSINATION DID NOT REFLECT INTERNAL US POLITICAL PROBLEMS WILL PROBABLY HAVE SOME EFFECT ON PORTUGUESE OPINION, BUT NOT YET REFLECTED IN MEDIA COMMENT.

6. EMBASSY HAS CANCELLED REMAINING PERFORMANCES OF WHAT HAS BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL TOUR OF SIXTH FLEET BAND. ALSO CANCELLED WAS EMBASSY RECEPTION PLANNED FOR THIS EVENING AT SANTAREM NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR IN CONNECTION WITH US DAY AT FAIR. PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT ON SENATOR'S DEATH HAS BEEN MADE SUBJECT OF EMBASSY RELEASE TO PUBLIC MEDIA.
WELLMAN

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

POB 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

178272

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Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy PARIS

PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: AmEmbassy SAIGON

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STATE

6 JUN 68 23 25z

Following is the text of INR's Intelligence Note: "Hanoi's Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Kennedy":

Hanoi has reacted to the news of Senator Robert F. Kennedy's assassination by hinting that the assassination was plotted by the US administration. Hanoi Radio referred to the crime as a "planned assassination," and "various factions of the US monopoly capitalist class have not hesitated to resort to bloodshed and fire to liquidate one another." It linked the assassination of the Senator to that of President Kennedy five years ago, ~~that~~ adding that Senator Kennedy had been "the most redoubtable political opponent" of the administration. Although the official Hanoi spokesman in Paris stated that the assassination was an American "domestic question," members of the delegation voiced dark "suspicions" of a plot to newsmen. It is difficult to speculate whether or not Hanoi actually believes there is a plot--as it might, to the extent that it sees conspiracy everywhere--or whether it merely states this in order to make propaganda. We incline to believe the latter is the more important factor in its statements, though the former may play some role.

RECEIVED BY R/A

Drafted by:

INR/REA/AC-WB:er:pl:6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

4959

Telegraphic transmission and

INR/REA - Fred Greene 72

classification approved by:

Clearances:

EA - Mr. Isham

S/S - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ S/S - Mr. Meehan

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Press speculation that Hanoi may revamp its negotiations tactics because of the effect of the assassination on the US political outlook seems justified to a certain degree--Hanoi may hope that the pattern of politically motivated assassination and general social unrest in the United States may lead to a greater US preoccupation with domestic matters and thus possibly force the US to soften its stand on the Vietnam issue. Hanoi doubtless also hopes that the pressures of the presidential campaign, particularly in such an atmosphere, will inhibit US military operations and soften our negotiations stand. While it recognizes the danger that domestic frustrations and uncertainties, or some coalescence of political sentiment, may prompt us to escalate the war rapidly in order to end it quickly, it probably believes that the principal effect will be a reduction in US interest in international issues, a consideration that may further affect the timing of its own negotiations strategy and tactics. The assassination may, in short, reinforce Hanoi's inclination to maintain a hard line in talks, while still holding the negotiations alternative open so as to restrain us from rapid escalation.

However, there is no basis for the press speculation that Hanoi might shift its stand--presumably toward a softer position--because it no longer sees the possibility that Senator Kennedy might become President. We do not believe that Hanoi has tied its own expectations to particular American candidates. It tends to regard all American leaders as members of the same political elite. It is keenly aware of differences between them, particularly with regard to Vietnam,

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but it does not believe that it can rely on them to act in accordance with Hanoi's wishes or even in accordance with their own earlier statements. Hanoi probably recalls that President Eisenhower, having promised peace in Korea, still insisted on Communist concessions on the key prisoner repatriation issue rather than yield on this point. Hanoi also probably recalls that President Kennedy began his administration by endorsing the Bay of Pigs effort, and that President Johnson sent American forces to Vietnam soon after the 1964 election. Hanoi is certainly sensitive to the fact that no US presidential candidate has committed himself to a rapid or unilateral withdrawal from Vietnam, no matter how critical some candidates have been of present policies. Hanoi may hope that one or another presidential candidate might be more forthcoming than others, but it will not be inclined to count on such a development. It does not expect any American President, present or potential, to yield more in negotiations than the Communist forces have been able to win in the field.

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POL 6 US / Kennedy, Robert F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Origin

ACTION: CIRCULAR ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

Info:

IMMEDIATE

6 JUN 68 14 57z

STATE _____

Department spokesman made following statement approximately
5:40 p.m., ~~EDT~~ EDT, June 5 on question of foreign involvement
in attack on Senator Kennedy:

QUOTE I want to say since I had a question from the A.P. that
the Department of State has absolutely no evidence that any
foreign government is involved or has been involved in this
tragic incident. END QUOTE.

END

RUSK

RECEIVED BY 22

Drafted by:

S/S: JWDavis:hbb 6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

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Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

S/S - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Clearances:

P - Mr. McCloskey (substance)

Mr. Meehan
NEA/P - Mr. Brown (subs.)

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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6 JUN 68 23 27Z

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Origin

ACTION: CIRCULAR TO POSTS ON ATTACHED LIST

IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE
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SUBJECT: Kennedy Funeral and Interment

1. As of 6:00 p.m. Washington time, June 6, we understand from Kennedy family that following are plans for funeral and interment of Senator Robert F. Kennedy:

(a) The Senator's body will ~~lie~~ lie in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City from ~~8~~ 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, June 7.

(b) ~~Funeral~~ Funeral services will be held in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City at 10:00 a.m. EDT Saturday morning June 8.

(c) Following funeral services, body will be taken from New York to Washington by special train, arriving approximately 4:00 p.m. EDT.

(d) After procession, ^{burial} ~~XXXXXX~~ will be at Arlington ~~Cemetery~~ Cemetery at approximately 5-5:30 p.m. EDT, Saturday, June 8.

2. Invitations from family will be limited to two attendees for each country which may desire to have representatives

Drafted by:

S/S:BHRead:hbb 6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

7741

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/- The Secretary

Clearances:

S/CPR - Mr. Sancho-Bonet

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attend funeral. Space in Cathedral will be ~~severely~~ severely limited, and it will not rpt not be possible to assure attendance of any additional representatives. We assume most governments who wish to have representative ~~representative~~ attend will designate their local Ambassador or UN Rep.

3. We have received indications from a few countries that they will send special representatives to the funeral. Only if asked rpt only if asked by host government concerning level of such representatives, you are authorized to say that a Parliamentary or Ministerial level representative would be appropriate. At same time you should indicate severe space problem described above.

4. Burial at Arlington will be open ~~to the public~~ to the public and there will be a less stringent limit on other country representation at burial. Transportation will be provided for diplomatic and special representatives to and from New York City and Washington on June 8.

5. Social functions scheduled ~~for~~ ^{by} mission and mission attendance at social functions of host government and others should be limited through Sunday, June 9 in discretion of Ambassador. Many social functions in Washington have been cancelled but others which have important official purposes are proceeding on schedule.

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ADDIS ~~XXXXX~~ ABABA

NAIROBI

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CAIRO

TEL AVIV

AMMAN

ATHENS

ANKARA

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TEHRAN

RAWALPINDI

NEW DELHI

TOKYO

MANILA

CANBERRA

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PAGE 01 MANILA 11314 060405Z

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R 060129Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2426

UNCLAS MANILA 11314

SUBJ: MARCOS STATEMENT ON KENNEDY SHOOTING

FOLLOWING IS PRESIDENT MARCOS' STATEMENT ON KENNEDY
SHOOTING ISSUED BY MALACANANG JUNE 5 AND AS REPORTED ALL
MORNING DAILIES JUNE 6:

"THE SHOOTING OF U.S. SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS
SHOCKING BEYOND BELIEF. IT IS AN OUTRAGE NOT
ONLY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, BUT TO ALL MEN EVERYWHERE
WHO HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED TO THE LEADERS OF
THE UNITED STATES FOR HOPE AND GUIDANCE.

"SENATOR KENNEDY IS ONE SUCH LEADER, AND I SINCERELY
HOPE THAT SENATOR KENNEDY WILL RECOVER FROM HIS INJURY.
I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE KEEN SENSE OF JUSTICE OF THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE FORCES OF ORDER WILL BRING THE
PERPETRATORS OF THIS CRIME BEFORE THE LAW AND AT LEAST
TO THAT EXTENT ALLEVIATE THIS NATIONAL TRAGEDY.

"IN BEHALF OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE, I OFFER TO SENATOR
KENNEDY'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS OUR PROFOUNDTEST SYMPATHIES."
WILSON

MICROFILMED BY RFA

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Department of State

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Robert F. F

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PAGE 01 MADRID 03996 070610Z

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R 061824Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USINFO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3821

UNCLAS MADRID 3996

COVERAGE: SPANISH MEDIA REACTED IMMEDIATELY TO NEWS KENNEDY WOUNDING. TVE WENT ON AIR SHORTLY AFTER WORD REACHED MADRID (ABOUT 8:15 AM JUNE 5). TVE AND RADIO NACIONAL BROADCAST ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY BULLETINS, BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS, BACKGROUND AND PROGRESS REPORTS WOUNDED SENATOR. FOLLOWING HIS DEATH, MEDIA KEPT IN ALMOST CONSTANT TELEPHONE CONTACT THEIR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENTS JESUS HERMIDA AND CIRILO RODRIGUEZ. HERMIDA APPEARED LIVE TV ROUNDUP NOON NEWSCAST JUNE 6 FROM NEW YORK VIA SATELLITE. RNE SEVERAL TIMES DAILY BROADCAST REACTION ROUNDUP EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS. PRESS GAVE PROMINENT PLAY UPI TELPHOTOS ASSASSINATION AND CAPTURED GUNMAN.

EVENING EL ALCAZAR GAVE MOST COMPLETE NEWSPAPER COVERAGE WITH THREE SPECIAL JUNE 5 EDITIONS. ALCAZAR CORRESPONDENT MANUEL BUENO, PRESENT AMBASSADOR HOTEL, FILED MOVING FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT. INFORMACIONES AND PUEBLO PUBLISHED EXTRAS OR SUPPLEMENTS REGULAR EDITIONS. PUEBLO DOUBLED JUNE 5 PRESS RUN. PRINCIPAL MADRID DAILIES JUNE 6 SOLD OUT BEFORE 11:00 AM. MIDDAY TV NEWS COVERAGE KENNEDY DEATH LASTED 42 MINUTES JUNE 6. INCLUDED REGRETS THREE CABINET MINISTERS AND MOVING PROFILE BY NUNO AGUIRRE DE CARCER, MFA DESK OFFICER AMERICAN AFFAIRS, WASHINGTON NEIGHBOR AND FRIEND KENNEDY. PRESS AND RADIO REPEATED CHARGE WALKER'S 200 WORD STATEMENT OF SYMPATHY. NEWSPAPER AND RADIO ACCOUNTS LARGELY BASED COMMERCIAL WIRE STORIES, OFTEN WITH CONFLICTING DETAILS. USIS MONITORED USAF (TORREJON) RETRANSMISSIONS AFRS AND ANSWERED UNENDING

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PAGE 02 MADRID 03996 070610Z

STREAM QUEIRIES BOTH SPANISH AND US CITIZENS AND PROVIDED MISSION PROGRESS REPORTS.

THEMES: MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM FRAGA IRIBARNE SET TONE SUBSEQUENT COMMENT ASSASSINATION IN STATEMENT DEPLORING "RETURN AGAIN TO POLITICAL ASSASSINATION" IN "MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRY" IN "FREE AND CHRISTIAN WORLD." IN ALLUDING TO SPANISH ORDER SR. FRAGA SAID "PEACE AND LIBERTY CAN ONLY EXIST AUTHENTICALLY WHEN LAW AND THE PRINCIPLE OF AUTHORITY ESTABLISH A PATTERN OF CITIZENSHIP IN WHICH A RESORT TO VIOLENCE IN POLITICAL CONFLICTS FIND NO ROOM." HE REFERRED TO THE TRANSIENT QUALITY OF A DEMOCRACY IN WHICH VIOLENCE CAN AFFECT THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE. ADMONISHING THE SPANISH READER HE SAID, "FOR THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE WITH ALL OUR POLITICAL STRENGTH THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND THE SUBMISSION TO THE LAW AND THE ELIMINATION OF THREATS AGAINST PEACE AND LIBERTY WHICH MAY ERUPT IN ANY PLACE AND ON ANY OCCASION."

RODRIGO ROYO WROTE SCURRILOUS CONDEMNATION DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN JUNE 5 SP. REFERRING TO RECENT PAST ASSASSINATIONS ROYO ACCUSED AN AMORPHOUS "THEY" OF HAVING KILLED US LEADERS. IN REFERENCE TO THE SENATOR'S DEATH HE SAID "DEMOCRACY KILLED HIM." IN REPLYING TO THE QUESTION "HOW," ROYO SAID "DEMOCRACY CANNOT TOLERATE GREAT MEN; CANNOT DIGEST THEM, SUFFERS INDIGESTION FROM THE LEADERS OF PEOPLE." ROYO THEN STRUCK OUT AT GROUPS WHICH HE REPORTS REPRESENT DEMOCRATIC TENDENCIES IN SPAIN. IN REFERRING TO THE US, ROYO SAID THAT WITH THE SENATOR'S DEATH "DEMOCRACY HAD EXPIRED." AFTER WITNESSING THE EVENTS IN LOS ANGELES ROYO DOUBTED THAT ANYONE COULD PUBLICLY EXPOUSE "THE INTRODUCTION IN SPAIN OF A POLITICAL SYSTEM WHOSE SPECIALTY IS THE ASSASSINATION OF ITS BEST MEN, DISORDER, INJUSTICE, PERSONAL INSECURITY, LOOTING, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, CRIME, EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY MAN." HE CONCLUDED ARTICLE BY STATING OTHERS MAY CHOOSE THE GOVERNMENT THEY WANT BUT "WE ARE IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL SYNDICALISM." WHILE THE ROYO ARTICLE IN A RIGHT-WING REGIME PAPER WAS EXTREME, IT REFLECTED PERVASIVE FEELING DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM UNABLE COPE WITH MOUNTING NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

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PAGE 03 MADRID 03996 070610Z

SOME COMMENTATORS SPOKE OF EXCESSIVE FREEDOM, EACH WITH WHICH FIREARMS ARE BOUGHT, MALAISE AMONG POPULATION, MORAL SICKNESS, ETC.

SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION FOLLOWING TWO MONTHS KING'S DEATH REOPENED ASSUMPTION LATEST ASSASSINATION PART OF CONSPIRACY. THIS IDEA ESPECIALLY PREVALENT EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS' RADIO ROUNDUPS.

WHILE OTHER SPECULATIONS AND CONCLUSION EMERGE FROM LATEST ASSASSINATION, THESE TWO PROMINENT THEMES DETECTABLE LOCAL COMMENT. NISWANDER

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Robert F.
Department of State
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ACTION CPR 02

INFO AF 06,ARA 08,EA 06,EUR 08,NEA 06,RSC 01,SS 20,H 01,L 03,P 03,

RSR 01,FILE 01,SSO 00,INR 07,1073 W

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RUEHC

UNCLAS 001798

JCSS SENDS ALMILACT 7/68

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

1. BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION, THE US FLAG
WILL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF AT ALL US MILITARY
INSTALLATIONS AND NAVAL VESSELS UPON RECEIPT OF
THIS MESSAGE THROUGH THE DATE OF INTERMENT IN
HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KEN-
NEDY. DATE OF INTERMENT IS UNKNOWN AT THIS
TIME. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED
WHEN EXACT DATE OF INTERMENT IS ESTABLISHED.
2. AT THOSE INSTALLATIONS WHERE OTHER NATION'S
FLAG IS FLOWN AT FULL-STAFF, THE US NATIONAL

PAGE 2 RUEOJFA 9565 UNCLAS

FLAG WILL BE FLOWN AT FULL STAFF ALSO. AT THOSE
INSTALLATIONS WHERE ONLY THE US NATIONAL FLAG
IS FLOWN, PARAGRAPH 1 APPLIES. FOR GUIDANCE,
AT NO TIME WILL THE US NATIONAL FLAG BE FLOWN
AT A LESSER HEIGHT THAN OTHER FLAGS AT THE
SAME INSTALLATION.

1

UNCLASSIFIED

Joint Chiefs of Staff
6/6/68

(6)



Department of State

POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.

TELEGRAM
44

UNCLASSIFIED 667

PAGE 01 062353Z

81

ACTION SS 20

INFO CPR 01,H 01,AF 06,ARA 08,EA 06,EUR 08,NEA 06,RSC 01,RSR 01,

FILE 01,SSO 00,P 03,0 01,063 W
.....

P 062055Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 8/68 1834 J-3 SENDS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION AND
STATEMENT

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE PRESIDENTIAL
PROCLAMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

'TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES:
A NOBLE AND COMPASSIONATE LEADER, A GOOD
AND FAITHFUL SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE, IN THE
FULL VIGOR OF HIS PROMISE, LIES DEAD FROM
AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

THE TRAGEDY AND THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE OF
ROBERT F. KENNEDY'S DEATH CASTS A DEEP
SHADOW OF GRIEF ACROSS AMERICA AND ACROSS
THE WORLD.

PAGE 2 RUEOJFA 0098 UNCLAS

THIS IS A MOMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN
HANDS AND WALK TOGETHER THROUGH THIS DARK
NIGHT OF COMMON ANGUISH INTO A NEW DAWN OF
HEALING UNITY.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, PRESI-
DENT OF THE UNITED STATES, DO CALL UPON ALL
AMERICANS TO OBSERVE SUNDAY NEXT, THE NINTH
DAY OF JUNE, AS A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING
IN HIS MEMORY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.
IN OUR CHURCHES, IN OUR HOMES, AND IN OUR
HEARTS LET US RESOLVE BEFORE GOD AND BEFORE
EACH OTHER THAT THE PURPOSE OF PROGRESS AND

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Joint Chiefs of Staff
6/6/68

(1)



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 062353Z

JUSTICE FOR WHICH ROBERT F. KENNEDY LIVED
SHALL ENDURE.

I DIRECT THAT UNTIL INTERMENT THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF ON
ALL BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND NAVAL VESSELS OF THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS
TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.

PAGE 3 RUEOJFA 0098 UNCLAS

I ALSO DIRECT THAT THE FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN
AT HALF-STAFF FOR THE SAME LENGTH OF TIME, AT
ALL UNITED STATES EMBASSIES, LEGATIONS,
CONSULAR OFFICES, AND OTHER FACILITIES ABROAD,
INCLUDING ALL MILITARY FACILITIES AND NAVAL
VESSELS AND STATIONS.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY
HAND THIS SIXTH DAY OF JUNE, IN THE YEAR OF
OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT
AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-

SECOND. /S/ LYNDON B. JOHNSON

2. STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT:

'THIS IS A TIME OF TRAGEDY AND LOSS.

SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS DEAD.

ROBERT KENNEDY AFFIRMED THIS COUNTRY--

AFFIRMED THE ESSENTIAL DECENCY OF ITS

PEOPLE, THEIR LONGING FOR PEACE, THEIR

DESIRE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR

ALL.

PAGE 4 RUEOJFA 0098 UNCLAS

DURING HIS LIFE, HE KNEW FAR MORE THAN HIS
SHARE OF PERSONAL TRAGEDY.

YET HE NEVER ABANDONED HIS FAITH IN AMERICA.

HE NEVER LOST HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE SPIRITUAL

STRENGTH OF ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN. HE

BELIEVED IN THE CAPACITY OF THE YOUNG FOR

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 062353Z

EXCELLENCE--AND IN THE RIGHT OF THE OLD AND
POOR TO A LIFE OF DIGNITY.
OUR PUBLIC LIFE IS DIMINISHED BY HIS LOSS.
MRS. JOHNSON AND I EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY
TO MRS. KENNDY AND HIS FAMILY. I HAVE ISSUED
A PROCLAMATION CALLING UPON OUR NATION TO
OBSERVE A DAY OF MOURNING FOR ROBERT KENNEDY.''

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POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

7

UNCLASSIFIED 322

PAGE 01 070646Z

22
ACTION ARA 16

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, RSR 01, /068 W

R 060005Z JUN 68
FM TOMAS GUILLERMO ELIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC

UNCLAS

E X A C T T R A N S L A T I O N

TO HIS EXCELLENCY DEAN RUSK
SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEEPLY MOVED BY THE ATTACK AGAINST SENATOR ROBERT F.
KENNEDY, I CONVEY TO YOU MY MOST SINCERE WISHES FOR A PROMPT
RECOVERY. I RENEW TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE ASSURANCES OF MY
MOST DISTINGUISHED CONSIDERATION.

TOMAS GUILLERMO ELIO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BOLIVIA

Bolivia, for Minister of

UNCLASSIFIED



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POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 504

PAGE 01 070914Z

20

ACTION AF 15

INFO CPR 02, GPM 04, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, FILE 01,

RSR 01, SSO 00, LS 02, /074 W

R 061445Z JUN 68

FM FOREIGN/OFFICE/FORTLAMY/CHAD

TO SECSTATE/WASHDC

GRNC

UNCLAS AFF. ET. PRTO

AYANT APPRIS LA DISPARITION TRAGIQUE DU SENATEUR ROBERT KENNEDY
HONNEUR VOUS ADRESSER MES TRES VIVES CONDOLEANCES ET VOUS PRIE
D'ETRE MON INTERPRETE AUPRES DA LA FAMILLE DU DEFUNT POUR LUI
DIRE QUE JE PARTAGE PROFONDEMENT SA DOULEUR

DR JACQUES BAROUM

LE MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

Chad, Minister of
700.

Chad,
Minister of

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UNCLASSIFIED



POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 605

PAGE 01 TRIPOLI 03875 061222Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, PR 02, P 04, USIE 00, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01,
CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, /062 W

P R 06113Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2772
INFO AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 3875

REF: STATE 176747

JOINT STATE/USIS

SUBJ: LIBYAN REACTION ASSASSINATION SEN TOR KENNEDY.

1. IN EDITIONS PUBLISHED PRIOR TO NEWS OF SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH, TRIPOLI PRESS JUNE 6 DEVOTED PROMINENT FRONT PAGE COVERAGE, UNDER BANNER HEADLINES TO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. ASIDE FROM STRAIGHT WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS OF INCIDENT AND DETAILS SENATOR'S PHYSICAL CONDITION, MANY PAPERS FOCUSED ON MYSTERIOUS ASSAILANT. AL RAA'ID, RADICAL ANTI-AMERICAN DAILY, HEADLINE READ: "TREACHEROUS ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST KENNEDY FOLLOWING SUCCESS IN CALIFORNIA PRIMARY". AL ALAM, GOVERNMENT DAILY, CARRIED HEADLINE: "STRANGE ACCOUNT ABOUT IDENTITY OF KENNEDY ASSAILANT". WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS OF INCIDENT REVEALED NAME, AGE AND BRIEF BACKGROUND DATA ON ASSAILANT, INCLUDING FACT HE HAD ONCE LIVED IN JERUSALEM, BUT ALL PAPERS AND RADIO STATED HIS NATIONALITY AS YET UNKNOWN. SOME PAPERS CARRIED REUTERS REPORT ON STATEMENT FROM AN ARAB LEADER IN "FORMER JORDANIAN SECTOR OF JERUSALEM" EXPRESSING SHOCK AT INCIDENT BUT CLAIMING NO FAMILIARITY WITH NAME "SARHAN" IN JERUSALEM.

2. AL RAA'ID ONLY PAPER TO COMMENT ON ATTACK. IN

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POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 TRIPOL 03875 061222Z

VIOLENT BACK PAGE EDITORIAL, RAA'ID WRITER CLAIMED INCIDENT REVEALS "DECAY OF DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA" AND "CONTRADICTIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY", AND DECRIED "DOMINATION BULLETS OVER AMERICAN STREETS. PAPER ASSERTED "TRAGEDY OF NEGRO" AND INCREASING NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED AND POOR WILL ULTIMATELY LEAD TO CIVIL WAR. WRITER OBSERVED THAT ARABS SEE NO HOPE THAT ANY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WILL HELP ARABS "REGAIN LANDS" AND DECRIED INFLUENCE "JEWISH MONEY AND VOTES" ON ALL CANDIDATES. WRITER ADDED THAT "WE DO NOT SEE ROBERT KENNEDY AS SAVIOUR OR ARABS OR AS MAN WHO WOULD CHANGE AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY". WHILE DEPLORING ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT. PAPER CLAIMED IT REPRESENTED DOMINANCE VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN LIFE. EDITORIAL ENJOINED AMERICANS TO FREE THEMSELVES FROM DOMINATION OF "CAPITALISM, ZIONISM, AND EXTREMEST ORGANIZATION" SO THEY CAN REGAIN CONFIDENCE OF WORLD.

3. RAA'ID ONLY PAPER TO STATE IT BELIEVED ASSAILANT HAD ACCOMPLICES ALTHOUGH OTHER PAPERS PUBLISHED DETAILS RAISING SUSPICION OF CONSPIRACY. NEWSOM

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*Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.*
Department of State
TELEGRAM
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UNCLASSIFIED 570

PAGE 01 KINGST 02559 052122Z

89

ACTION ARA 16

INFO (RSR) 01, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, SSO 00, RSC 01, /068 W

R 052052Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2481

UNCLAS KINGSTON 2559

SIR ALEXANDER BUSTAMANTE HAS REQUESTED ME TO TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT: "I AM SHOCKED AND HORRIFIED AT THE TRAGIC NEWS OF THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. THIS IS ANOTHER BLOT ON CIVILIZATION. I EXTEND TO YOU, THE PEOPLE OF THE USA AND THE KENNEDY FAMILY MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY. IT IS A A SHAME SUCH SAVAGERY CONTINUES. BUSTAMANTE" TOBRINER

*Kingston 2559
6/5/68*

①

UNCLASSIFIED



POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

7

UNCLASSIFIED 326

PAGE 01 070645Z

18
ACTION ARA 16

INFO SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,P 04,USIA 12,NSC 10,FILE 01,RSR 01/068 W

R 051110Z JUN 68
FM MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ECUADOR
TO SECSTATE WASH D.C.

UNCLAS

E X A C T T R A N S L A T I O N

HIS EXCELLENCY
DEAN RUSK
SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON, D.C.

90 I AM HORROR-STRICKEN AND GREATLY CONCERNED OVER THE RECENT
ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. I RESPECTFULLY
ASK YOU TO CONVEY TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY MY SINCERE WISHES FOR
HIS PROMPT RECOVERY.

GUSTAVO LARREA CORDOVA

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ECUADOR

Ecuador, Minister of

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01363 051052Z

18

ACTION AF 15

INFO SSO 00, GPM 04, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, H 02, 1069 W

P R 050932Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1693

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 1363

PRES BONGO AS WELL FRENCH AMB HAVE TELEPHONED EXPRESS THEIR DEEP SHOCK, DISTRESS AND REGRET OVER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT SENATOR KENNEDY AND TO EXPRESS HOPE HIS RECOVERY. I HAVE TOLD BONGO I WOULD CONVEY SUCH INFO AS I RECEIVE ON SENATOR KENNEDY AND STATE HIS HEALTH AS SOON AS RECEIVED.
BANE

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63 Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Pol 23-8 The Congo

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 147

PAGE 01 KINSHA 09589 051804Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, O 02, SY 03,
FBO 01, PER 02, OPR 02, OC 06, CCO 00, RSR 01, SSO 00, SAH 03, ACDA 16,
/150 W

R 051600Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8164
INFO AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
STATESGRNC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 9589

1. EMBASSY DOES NOT FORESEE ANY LOCAL SECURITY PROBLEMS ARISING FROM TRAGIC SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY, BUT WE HAVE TAKEN NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS JUST IN CASE. KENNEDY NAME IS EXTREMELY POPULAR AMONG CONGOLESE, AND THERE IS STILL SOME PENT UP EMOTION FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINATION.
2. SQUAD OF POLICEMEN APPEARED AT CHANCERY WEDNESDAY AFTER-NOON WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS TO PROTECT EMBASSY. WE FOUND OUT LATER THAT TOP RANKING POLICE OFFICIAL HAD HEARD RUMORS THERE MIGHT BE DEMONSTRATIONS AND HE SENT POLICEMEN ON HIS OWN COMMENDABLE INITIATIVE. WE STILL TRYING TO TRACE THESE RUMORS TO THEIR SOURCE AND WILL KEEP ALERT FOR AS LONG AS NECESSARY.
3. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE ARE ALL HORRIFIED AND DEEPLY SADDENED BY SHOOTING. EMBASSY SWITCHBOARD FLOODED BY ANXIOUS INQUIRIES. MCGUIRE

(2)

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F. 177068

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

5 JUN 68 22 24z

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Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN IMMEDIATE
Amconsul JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
INFO: USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE
Amembassy BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
" JIDDA IMMEDIATE
" KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
" ADEN IMMEDIATE
" ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
" RABAT IMMEDIATE
" TUNIS IMMEDIATE
" TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
" KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
" LONDON IMMEDIATE
" BENGHAZI IMMEDIATE
" BAIDA IMMEDIATE
Amconsul DHAMRAN IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

LIMDIS

STATE

Re DEPTTEL 176785

Person in custody Los Angeles police now further identified as SIRHAN

BISHARA SIRHAN born [redacted] Jerusalem. Visa issued Amman

P11

September 24, 1956. Application number I-1130888. Visa number 1669.

Non-quota under PL 203-4-(a)(14). Came to US on mother's passport.

Mother's name MARY BISHARA SARHAN RPT SARHAN. Mother's passport issued

by Jordan Government July 2, 1956, number 142026. Father's last known

address Bishara Sarhan, P.O. 4079, Jerusalem. Sirhan believed to have

aunt named Elen Hadawwar whose last known address was care House of

There should be no public release of foregoing

Shaikh Yasin, Jerusalem. ~~There should be no public release of foregoing info.~~

info / unless otherwise notified. USIA cable following with publicly

releasable biographic data.

END

GP-3

Drafted by: L/NEA - Donald Wehmeyer:bw 6/5/68

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: NEA - Lucius D. Battle

Clearances:

NEA - Mr. Rockwell SY/PRS - Mr. Lynch VO - Mr. Owens

NEA/ARN - Mr. Houghton

AFN - Mr. Lloyd

USIA-ACarter

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification



63 Pol 6 US/ Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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UNCLASSIFIED 248

PAGE 01 RABAT 04545 051924Z

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ACTION H 02

INFO AF 09, SS 20, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01,

/061 W

R 051842Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4514

UNCLAS RABAT 4545

SUBJ: MOROCCAN REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT MADE JUNE 5 BY
FONMIN SPOKESMAN:

"THE GOVERNMENT OF H.M. THE KING WAS STRONGLY AFFECTED BY THE
ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. IN EXPRESSING
ITS REGRETS MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT RESTATES ITS DISAPPROVAL OF THE
UTILIZATION OF FORCE AND VIOLENCE IN DIFFERENT SPHERES --
PARTICULARLY
THAT OF POLITICS."

2. FONMIN LARAKI ADDITIONALLY SENT FOLLOWING TO MRS. KENNEDY
ON BEHALF OF KING:

"HIS MAJESTY THE KING RECEIVED WITH INDIGNATION THE NEWS OF THE
ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF YOUR HUSBAND SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. HE
HAS ASKED TO EXTEND HIS SYMPATHY AND HIS FERVENT WISHES FOR AN
EARLY RECOVERY." TASCA

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Department of State

POL 6 45/Kennedy,
TELEGRAM
Robert F. ²⁷

UNCLASSIFIED 141

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07040 051804Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, RSR 01, 071 W

R 051728Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6586

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 7040

SUBJECT: KENNEDY SHOOTING

1. FORMIN HARMEL MADE RADIO STATEMENT TODAY REGARDING
ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY. TRANSLATION
FOLLOWS:

2. THE CRIMINAL ATTEMPT WHICH THE BROTHER OF THE
ASSASSINATED PRESIDENT HAS JUST BEEN THE VICTIM IS STAGGERING.

3. POLITICAL MURDER IS ALWAYS A COWARDLY ACT. EVERY BELGIAN
AND I AM SURE OF BEING THEIR SPOKESMAN, WHO RESPECTS AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY, EXPRESSED THE UNANIMOUS WISH FOR THE RETURN TO
HEALTH OF THE ONE WHO HAS JUST BEEN THE VICTIM OF AN
ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION. KNIGHT

✓

RECEIVED BY [illegible]

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6/5/68
Bussels
7040

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

ZFF-6
POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT
POL 7 DEF 19-19 US
AID(US) 8
5 JUN 68 20 322
176785
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN IMMEDIATE
USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE
Amembassy BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
Amembassy JIDDA IMMEDIATE
Amembassy KUWAIT IMMEDIATE
Amconsul DHAHRAN IMMEDIATE
Amconsul JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
Amembassy ADEN IMMEDIATE
Amembassy ALGIERS IMMEDIATE
Amembassy RABAT IMMEDIATE
Amembassy TUNIS IMMEDIATE
Amembassy TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
Amembassy KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
Amembassy LONDON IMMEDIATE
USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

ACTION:

Amembassy BENGHAZI IMMEDIATE
Amembassy BAIDA IMMEDIATE

INFO.: Amembassy TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
White House, DOB, CIA

STATE

1. Person currently held by Los Angeles police connection Kennedy shooting now tentatively identified as Sharif Bishary Sirhan AKA Sirhan ~~Bix~~ Bihara Shirhan. Born in Jordan PII permanent resident U.S., having entered port of New York January 12, 1957. INS Number A-10-711-881. Sirhan believed to have four brothers: Munir, ~~XXXX~~ Adel, Saidalah, ~~Sharif~~ Sharif.
2. All posts should institute maximum security ~~XXXX~~ precautions, refrain from any comment to press or anyone else with respect likely guilt or political implications incident. If Embassies aware nationals country to which accredited who may be visiting U.S. to whom special security precautions would be advisable, please advise immediately.

Drafted by:

NEA:LDBattle:lab 6/5/68

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

NEA - Lucius D. Battle

Clearances:

O/SY - Mr. Grignon (draft)
~~XXXXXX~~ O/SY/PRS - Mr. Lynch
(draft)
IO - Mr. Sisco

AFN - Mr. Lloyd
U - Mr. Katzenbach
CIA - Mr. Critchfield (notified)
L/NEA - Mr. Nehmeyer

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

DISSEMINATED BY NSA

176785

(21)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

3. Any info available any post with respect to relationship suspect to any organization or group requested urgently.
4. USUN requested advise Police Department New York, PERM REPS, and request protection staffs Arab missions.
5. In event any posts queried by governments to which accredited re facts in case, suggest only statement that suspect tentatively identified ^{by name given above} ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ without any comment with respect guilt, or political implications.
6. Addressees requested report anticipated local reactions when identity person in custody becomes publicly known.

END

GP-3

RUSK

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

37
PCL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

177238

5 JUN 68 23 32Z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE

REF: STATE 176785

L I M D I S

TO BE DELIVERED TO THE ACTION OFFICER OPENING OF BUSINESS JUNE 6
1. Jordan Ambassador Abdul Hamid Sharaf called on Assistant

Secretary Battle this afternoon to express his regrets and inform the Department that he had been instructed by King Hussein to go immediately to California to express Hussein's regrets to the Kennedy family over the assassination attempt on Senator Robert Kennedy. Battle expressed appreciation for the Ambassador's sentiments but suggested that now was perhaps not the time for such a message to be delivered orally to the Kennedy family. He informed the Ambassador that the Under Secretary would be pleased to pass the message on personally to the family and suggested that perhaps the King would wish to send a written message to the family also.

2. Battle told the Ambassador that he was advising him as friend but if the Ambassador insisted on going to California

Drafted by:

NEA/ARN:RBHoughton:img 6/5/68

Tel. Ext.

5617

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

NEA - Lucius D. Battle

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

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he of course was free to do so. He also emphasized that his reasons for giving this advice had nothing to do with security. Battle added that it might be appropriate at a later time for him to personally express regret on behalf of his government. He indicated to the Ambassador that we would be in close touch with him on developments.

3. Battle also gave the Ambassador what information he had concerning the alleged assailant as given in STATE 176785.

4. Sharaf thanked Battle and said that he would inform his government of our advice and in the meantime would not go to California.

5. FYI. The Ambassador was concerned that there be no misunderstanding in Amman over the reasons for his failure to carry out the King's instructions. END FYI.

GP-3

END

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CONFIDENTIAL

Classification



59
Col 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

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UNCLASSIFIED 417

PAGE 01 SANTO 02739 052217Z

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO RSR 01, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIA 12, CPR 02, SSO 00, RSC 01, 0068 W

P R 052125Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5389

INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2739

SUBJECT: POLITICAL LEADERS COMMENT ON SENATOR KENNEDY SHOOTING

1. FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ON SENATOR KENNEDY SHOOTING CARRIED
OVER LOCAL RADIO STATIONS THIS AFTERNOON:

A. PRESIDENT BALAGUER CALLED SHOOTING "AN EXECRABLE ACT
WHICH I AND DOMINICAN PEOPLE PROFOUNDLY LAMENT". PRESIDENT
ADDED INCIDENT WAS MANIFESTATION OF VIOLENCE ABROAD IN WORLD
WHICH ALL MUST FACE, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN PUBLIC OFFICE.
B. PRD SECGEN PENA GOMEZ SAID SHOOTING WAS HARD BLOW TO
MILLIONS OF NORTHAMERICAN WHITES AND NEGROES WHO HAD HOPED
KENNEDY'S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY WOULD BRING A NEW ERA OF
UNDERSTANDING, PEACE AND FRATERNITY TO ALL AMERICANS. STATED
THIS "CRIMINAL ACT ALSO CAUSED DEEP WOUND IN LATIN AMERICA" FOR
WHICH KENNEDY HAS PROFOUND RESPECT AND ADMIRATION, AND WHICH
ALSO BELIEVED HIS CANDIDACY WOULD USHER IN PERIOD OF NEW US
POLICY AND OPEN NEW ERA OF RESPECT FOR LA SELF-DETERMINATION,
NOW SO BLATANTLY IGNORED BY (PRESIDENT) JOHNSON. PRD IS
DEEPLY CONSTERNATED BY BRUTAL ATTACK WHICH ABRUPTLY CUTS OFF
HOPES OF ALL OF WORLD'S EXPLOITED FOR REDEMPTION. PENA GOMEZ
ADDED WISHES FOR SENATOR KENNEDY'S SPEEDY RECOVERY AND EXTENDED
PRD'S CONDOLENCES TO KENNEDY FAMILY "AND TO ALL US LIBERALS,
WITH WHOM PRD IDEOLOGICALLY IDENTIFIES."

C. PRSC PRESIDENT CAONABO JAVIER CASTILLO SAID "SAVAGE
ATTACK WAS MANIFESTATION OF PRESENT STATE OF STRUCTURAL DE-
COMPOSITION AFFECTING US. IT INCREDIBLE THAT WEST'S MOST
POWERFUL NATION CANNOT EVEN ALLOW FREE FLOW OF MOST ELEMENTAL
DEMOCRATIC IDEAS." JAVIER ATTRIBUTED ATTACK TO UNIDENTIFIED
ECONOMIC AND OTHER VESTED INTERESTS IN US WHO ALLEGEDLY

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Santo Domingo
2739
6-5-68



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 SANTO 02739 052217Z

DEDICATED TO PREVENTING CHANGE AND TO FORECLOSING CONTINUED
US MORAL LEADERSHIP IN WORLD. CRIMMINS

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Pol-6 US/Kennedy
Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

UNCLASSIFIED 545

PAGE 01 CARACA 06113 052334Z

89

ACTION ARA 16

INFO (RSR) 01, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIE 00, CPR 02, SSO 00, RSC 01, /050 W

P 052215Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4619

UNCLAS CARACAS 6113

JOINT EMBASSY/USIA MESSAGE

REF: CARACAS 6098

1. REACTION TO ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY CONTINUES STRONG THIS AFTERNOON. LEADING CARACAS MORNINGER, INDEPENDENT, LEFT OF CENTER EL NACIONAL (CIRCULATION 105,000) APPEARED ON STREETS AT 1415 LOCAL TIME WITH 8-PAGE SPECIAL EDITION DEVOTED TO KENNEDY. FRONT PAGE BANNERED QUOTE ATTEMPTED R. KENNEDY UNQUOTE OVER THREE-QUARTER PAGE AP RADIOPHOTO OF SENATOR ON FLOOR OF AMBASSADOR HOTEL SECONDS AFTER SHOOTING. BACK PAGE HEADLINED QUOTE KENNEDY IN CRITICAL STATE AFTER OPERATION UNQUOTE AND CARRIES ADDITIONAL PICTURES OF KENNEDY WOUNDED AND ONE OF WOULD-BE ASSASSIN.

2. INSIDE PAGE FEATURES STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT LEONI AS FOLLOWS QUOTE IT IS DIFFICULT TO GIVE AN OPINION ABOUT THE TRUE NATURE OF THE ATTEMPT CARRIED OUT ON THE LIFE OF THE WELL-KNOWN DEMOCRATIC CHAMPION, SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY BEFORE KNOWING DETAILS WHICH SO FAR HAVE NOT COME TO LIGHT. BUT THE ACT IN ITSELF IS UNNATURAL. IT PRODUCES INDIGNATION AND ALARM ALL OVER THE WORLD AND AROUSES FEELINGS OF INDIGNATION AND REVULSION... I PRAY FERVENTLY FOR THE RECOVERY

OF SENATOR KENNEDY AND THAT THIS ACT WILL NOT LEAD TO INTERNAL DISTURBANCE CONTRARY TO THE INTERESTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY UNQUOTE.

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Caracas
6/1/68
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PAGE 02 CARACA 06113 052334Z

3. SAME PAGE CARRIES STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR, AS RELEASED TO PRESS AND REPORTED ON JOINT EMBASSY/USIA TELEGRAM 6089, PLUS BRIEF INTERVIEW GIVEN TO EL NACIONAL REPORTER. PAPER ALSO CARRIES STATEMENTS BY CARDINAL QUINTERO, THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES OR LEADERS OF AD, MEP, COPEI, FND, FDP, UPA AND URD.

4. GONZALO BARRIOS (AD), AFTER EXPRESSING HIS SHOCK AT THE ATTEMPT AND SAYING HE COULD NOT GIVE AN OPINION ABOUT THE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ACT BECAUSE HE DID NOT YET KNOW THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WENT ON TO STATE QUOTE NEVERTHELESS, THE ACT ITSELF STRENGTHENS THE EXISTING IMPRESSION ABOUT THE ANOMALIES OCCURRING IN TODAY'S AMERICAN SOCIETY WHICH ARE GIVING RISE TO SERIOUS WORRIES UNQUOTE.

5. CALDERA (COPEI), SAID THE ENTIRE WORLD MUST BE AGHAST AT THIS MOSTROUS CRIME WHICH BEARS THE SAME MARK AS THE ASSASSINATIONS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING. CONTINUING, THE COPEI CANDIDATE SAID QUOTE I BELIEVE THAT THIS HAS DONE MORE DAMAGE TO US PRESTIGE THAT ALL ITS DIPLOMATIC ERRORS AND HAS ENDANGERED THE PEOPLE'S FAITH IN DEMOCRACY TO A MORE ACUTE DEGREE THAT THE FREQUENT DISTURBANCES IN UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES...I HOPE THAT SENATOR KENNEDY, WHOSE STATURE IS GROWING IN THE STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WILL RECOVER AND CONTINUE HIS CAMPAIGN SO THAT WE MAY SEE THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS "MAFFIA" WHICH ELIMINATED HIS BROTHER AND REVEREND LUTHER KING AND WHOSE PERSISTENCE IS INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE DIGNITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND WITH THE PRINCIPLES WHICH SUPPORT DEMOCRACY ON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT UNQUOTE.

6. LUIS BELTRAN PRIETO (MEP) STATED QUOTE THE ATTEMPT AGAINST SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS A LAMENTABLE EVENT RESULTING FROM THE ANOMALIES AND ANOMALITIES PROVOKED BY

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PAGE 03 CARACA 06113 052334Z

US POLICY. IS IS ALARMING THAT IN A CIVILIZED PEOPLE THERE CAN OCCUR SUCH HAPPENINGS AS THE ASSASSINATION OF LUTHER KING, BEFORE THAT THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND NOW THE ATTEMPT ON HIS BROTHER, BOB KENNEDY. IS IS THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE IN THE MIDST OF CIVILIZATION. AND THAT INDICATES A STATE OF DEGENERATION WHICH HAS NO RESPECT FOR THE LIVES OF ILLUSTRIOUS PERSONS AND TAKES NO ACCOUNT OF ANY WORK FOR THE COLLECTIVE GOOD. HOPEFULLY, THE BAD EXAMPLE OF THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT SPREAD AMONG OUR UNDERDEVELOPED PEOPLES OR AMONG THOSE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT UNQUOTE.

2. THE CAPITAL'S AFTERNOONERS DEVOTED LARGE PROPORTION OF THEIR COLUMNS TO KENNEDY. CONSERVATIVE INDEPENDENT LA VERDAD (15,000) GAVE OVER HALF OF FRONT PAGE TO UPI RADIOPHOTO OF SENATOR AFTER SHOOTING UNDER 5-INCH HEAD QUOTE KENNEDY DYING UNQUOTE FLANKED BY GOOD INFORMAL SHOT OF HEALTHY KENNEDY. REST OF FRONT PAGE DEVOTED TO UPI STORIES ON SHOOTING AND FEATURE DESCRIBING AUTHOR'S PERSONAL REMINISCENCES OF KENNEDY VISIT TO VENEZUELA. BACK PAGE CARRIES ADDITIONAL PICTURE OF KENNEDY AFTER SHOOTING AND ONE OF ASSASSIN UNDER BANNER HEAD QUOTE CONSPIRACY OF TERROR UNQUOTE. INSIDE PAGES FULL OF PICTURES OF KENNEDY IN VENEZUELA AND CAMPAIGN PICTURES. ONE PAGE HEADLINED QUOTE CONSTERNATION IN WORLD UNQUOTE, FEATURES STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON, THE POPE, DE GAULLE, KIESINGER, SARAGAT AND U.S. OFFICIALS. ANOTHER PAGE FEATURES STATEMENTS OF SOME OF VENEZUELAN PRESIDENTIAL CONDIDATES ALREADY MENTIONED.

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Department of State

POL 6 US/KENNEDY

ROBERT F

TELEGRAM

21

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05140 051350Z

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ACTION H 02

INFO NEA 13,SS 20,CPR 02,P 04,USIA 12,NSC 10,SSO 00,RSR 01,RSC 01,

/065 W

R 051310Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5981

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 5140

SUBJECT: ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE

1. DURING POLCOUNS CALL ON FONOFF UNDERSECRETARY KHALATBARI ON OTHER MATTERS, HE INDICATED KNOWLEDGE OF ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE AND PERSONALLY EXPRESSED DEEP REGRET AND SYMPATHY.

2. MANY EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN AND SYMPATHY BEING RECEIVED. EMBASSY/USIS INDICATING WE HAVE NO OFFICIAL REPORTS BUT CONVEYING ON STRICTLY FACTUAL BASIS INFO AS RECEIVED ON TICKER. HARLAN

RECEIVED BY 15/8

11

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00457 052219Z

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ACTION USIE 00

INFO ARA 08, RSR 01, RSC 01, /010 W

P R 052039Z JUN 68

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 718

UNCLAS BELIZE 457

FOR USIS

PLEASE FORWARD OPEN AIR MAIL SOONEST AND MATERIAL ON
SENATOR ROBERT KEEN. KENNEDY

BELIZE

S-503

457

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 CARACA 06098 051900Z

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ACTION H 02

INFO ARA 08, SS 20, CPR 02, P 04, USIE 00, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01,

/048 W

0 051842Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4609

UNCLAS CARACAS 6098

JOINT EMBASSY/USIA MESSAGE

1. NEWS OF ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY WAS FLASHED OVER LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AROUND 6:45 A.M. LOCAL TIME. FROM THAT MOMENT ON EMBASSY, AMBASSADOR AND INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS RECEIVED MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED CALLS FROM VENEZUELAN OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE EXPRESSING THEIR SYMPATHY.

2. AMBASSADOR ISSUED FOLLOWING STATE: "I HAVE LEARNED WITH THE DEEPEST SHOCK OF THE COWARDLY ATTACK MADE ON SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING. I UNDERSTAND THAT DOCTORS ARE NOW PERFORMING AN EXTREMELY DELICATE OPERATION IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE HIS LIFE. ON BEHALF OF MYSELF, THE STAFF OF THE EMBASSY AND THE ENTIRE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN VENEZUELA I EXTEND DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO MRS. KENNEDY AND HER CHILDREN IN THIS HOUR OF TRAGEDY AND TO EXPRESS A HEARTFELT PRAYER THAT SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE MAY BE SAVED."

3. STATEMENT WAS GIVEN HEAVY PLAY OVER RADIO AND TV.

4. AMONG CALLERS WERE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PASSING ON TO AMBASSADOR PRESIDENT LEONI'S SYMPATHY. OTHER CALLERS INCLUDED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS, DIPLOMATIC CORPS, REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN COMMUNITIES IN CARACAS. PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY WERE EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY OF MANY AVERAGE VENEZUELAN CITIZENS.

5. EL NACIONAL, LEADING CARACAS DAILY, PLANS SPECIAL EDITION

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Caracas 6098
6/5/68

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29

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PAGE 02 CARACA 06098 051900Z

FOR AFTERNOON. PRESS, RADIO, AND TV REPORTERS AND CAMERAMEN
HAVE BEEN COVERING EMBASSY SINCE EARLY MORNING.

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Pol 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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UNCLASSIFIED 353

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04775 052140Z

89

ACTION ARA 16

INFO RSR 01, SS 20, H 02, NSC 10, P 04, USIE 00, CPR 02, SSO 00, RSC 01, /056 W

P 052100Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4745

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4775

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS

SUBJECT: REACTION TO ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE

1. PRESIDENT BARRIENTOS, VICE PRESIDENT SILES, FOREIGN MINISTER ELIO AND LA PAZ ARCHBISHOP MANRIQUE HAVE ISSUED PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF SORROW AT KENNEDY TRAGEDY IN CALIFORNIA. ARCHBISHOP HELD NOON PRAYER SERVICE AT LA PAZ CATHEDRAL FOR SENATOR KENNEDY. ALTHOUGH NOTICE SHORT, SERVICE WAS WELL ATTENDED.

2. VICE PRESIDENT SILES AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, INCLUDING PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER COMMISSION OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ONDARZA, PAID PERSONAL CALLS ON AMBASSADOR TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES AT TRAGEDY. LIKewise RECENTLY ARRIVED FRENCH AMBASSADOR JOSEPH LAMBORSCHINI VISITED AMBASSADOR TO EXPRESS PERSONAL SENTIMENTS OF GRIEF. AMBASSADOR LAMBORSCHINI, FORMERLY FRENCH CHARGE AT SAIGON, RECALLS WITH APPRECIATION KINDNESS ACCORDED HIM BY SENATOR KENNEDY DURING LATTER'S VISITS TO SOUTH VIETNAM.

HENDERSON

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for PAZ 4775
 6/5/68

Pol 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
 NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
 MESSAGE CENTER

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6-5-68

BONN - UNN

UNCLAS USINFO WASHINGTON FOR IAE, IRS/AL, IBS AND IPS, REPEAT
 FC/STRICKER, NEW YORK; SECSTATE FOR GER; DOD/ISA FOR ILN;
 PASS STATE AND WHITE HOUSE; USIS BONN
 BONN, JUNE 5 --- CONSTERNATION, SHOCK, DISBELIEF WERE THE REACTION
 OF NUMEROUS CALLERS WHO INQUIRED AT THE EMBASSY ABOUT THE SHOOTING
 OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY.
 FIRST OFFICIAL REACTION CAME FROM FOREIGN MINISTER WILLY BRANDT
 WHO OPENED A NEWS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO BE DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO
 PARTY MATTERS WITH THE WORDS, A DEEP SHOCK HAS GONE THROUGH THE
 FEDERAL REPUBLIC AT THE NEWS OF THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY,
 THE DEEPEST SYMPATHIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND MINE PERSONALLY, GO
 TO THE KENNEDY FAMILY, AND ESPECIALLY TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S WIFE,
 ETHEL, TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND THE U.S. SENATE, IT IS A
 TRAGEDY LIKE IN ANTIQUE (GREEK) TIMES,
 GERMAN TELEVISION, MEANWHILE, IS SCHEDULING A SPECIAL EUROVISION
 SATELLITE BROADCAST AT 12:45 LOCAL TIME, TO PICK UP U.S. TELEVISION
 COVERAGE OF THE SHOOTING.

BT
 NNNN

ACT: ASD/ISA-9

INFO: CJCS-1 DJS-3 SJCS-1 J3-8 J5-2 SACSA-3 NMCC-1 ASD/ADM-4
 ASD/PA-1 W/H-4 STATE-1 DIA-15 CSA-1 CNO-2 CSAF-1 CMC-3
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PAGE 1 OF 1

37

POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy AMMAN FLASH

5 JUN 68 19 15z

Info:

Person currently held as suspect assassination attempt
Robert Kennedy tentatively identified as Sharif Bishary Sirhan.
Born in Jordan [] and now in US as permanent PII
resident under INS number A-10-711-881.

In your discretion inform King or senior government
official foregoing but withholding any comment with respect
to guilt, political implications. Further details follow.

You should make no public comment.

RUSK

Drafted by:

NEA:LDBattle:fc 6/5

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

NEA:LDBattle

Clearances:

SY/prs - Mr. Lynch (Draft)

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification



POL 6 US/KENNEDY ROBERT F

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 01437 052047Z

92

ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, NSC 10, P 04, USIE 00, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, RSR 01

1058 W

P 051540Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1109
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCOMSUL CAPE TOWN UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 1437

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT: REACTIONS

JOINT EMB-CONGEN-USIS MESSAGE

1. NEWS OF ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT SUBJECT OF SPECIAL EDITIONS AND VERY WIDE COVERAGE IN SA PRESS AND ON RADIO. REACTION APPEARS UNIFORMLY ONE OF SHOCK AND DISMAY AT LATEST MANIFESTATION OF VIOLENCE.

2. SPECIAL INTEREST OF SA IN SEN KENNEDY, OWING TO HIS CONTROVERSIAL VISIT HERE IN 1966, WIDELY NOTED. THUS SOME REACTIONS PRECEDED BY DISAVOWAL OF AGREEMENT WITH HIS POLITICAL VIEWS, AND CONCENTRATE ON REVULSION AT WHAT IS SEEN AS CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE IN US.

3. PRIMIN, WHO INFORMED WHILE IN CABINET MEETING, LATER SAID (AS REPORTED IN ARGUS): "THE INCIDENT IS MORE THAN SHOCKING. OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO MRS. KENNEDY, THE CHILDREN AND THE FAMILY". IN TEXT OBTAINED BY PHONE FROM SAPA, PRIMIN ADDED FOLLOWING: WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN IN PRESS: "IT MUST GIVE DEEP CAUSE FOR THOUGHT, BECAUSE IT IS THE OUTCOME OF A SPIRIT OF LAWLESSNESS, Nihilism AND ANARCHY WHICH IS RIFE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND WHICH IS OFTEN OPENLY ENCOURAGED OR CONDONED".

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PAGE 02 CAPE T 01437 052047Z

4. NEW EVOKED NUMBER OF STATEMENTS FROM LEADING PARLIAMEN-
TARIANS:.

A. OPPOSITION LEADER GRAAFF EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH
FAMILY OVER "WANTON ACT", AND OBSERVED THAT "WE SAFRICANS
CAN SAY WITH DEEP FEELING THAT THIS IS NOT WAY TO SETTLE
POLITICAL ARGUMENTS".

B. PROGRESSIVE MP SUZMAN CALLED ACT "HORRIFYING...FURTHER
EXAMPLE OF GHASTLY UNDERCURRENT OF VIOLENCE THAT SEEMS TO
BE ONE OF HAZARDS OF PUBLIC OFFICE IN AMERICA AND ELSEWHERE".

C. NP PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS LEADER PAUL VAN DER
MERWE EXPRESSED "EXTREME SORROW...EVERY CIVILIZED PERSON
THROUGHOUT WORLD WILL BE FILLED WITH REPUGNANCE".

5. SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF CALLS RECEIVED, BY EMBASSY, CONGEN
AND USIS, INQUIRING ABOUT SENATOR'S CONDITION AND EXPRESSING
SYMPATHY. AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS AS FOLLOWS QUOTED IN
ARGUS: "US AMBASSADOR TO SA (MR. WILLIAM ROUNTREE) SAID HE
WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED AND DISTRESSED BY THE NEWS OF 'THIS
TRAGIC AND SENSELESS SHOOTING OF ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST
OUTSTANDING STATESMEN, AND THE OTHERS WHO WERE INJURED'".

6 FOR SA POSTS: REPORT LOCAL REACTION DIRECTLY BUT BRIEFLY.
ROUNTREE

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03318 051028Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20, GPM 04, P 04, USIE 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, NSC 10, RSR 01,

RSC 01, /055 W

0 051020Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2502

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABIDJAN 3318

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MSG

DEEP CONCERN EXPRESSED PRESIDENCY AND FORNOFF REPORTED
ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT SENATOR KENNEDY. VIEW CONFLICTING NEWS
STORIES WOULD APPRECIATE BEST AVAILABLE REPORT. MORGAN

Abidjan 3318
6-5-68

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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 04187 051448Z

43

ACTION H 02

INFO AF 09, SS 20, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, RSC 01, RSR 01, SSO 00,

/061 W

P 051410Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5857

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 4187

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

1. FOLLOWING TWO MESSAGES FROM EMPEROR JUST RELEASED BY
ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY ALREADY TRANSMITTED BY VOA VIA TELEX
AS USINFO:

A. MRS. ETHEL R. KENNEDY, C/O SECRETARY OF THE U.S. SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. IT IS WITH DEEP GRIEF THAT WE HAVE LEARNT THE
SHOCKING NEWS OF THE MISHAP WHICH BEFELL YOUR HUSBAND WHO HAS
FAITHFULLY FOLLOWED THE EXEMPLARY PATH OF HIS BROTHER, THE
LATE JOHN F. KENNEDY, IN HIS STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM AND
JUSTICE. WE PRAY THAT THE ALMIGHTY GOD WILL SPARE YOUR
HUSBAND'S LIFE SO THAT HE WILL CARRY ON THE WORK WHICH
HE HAS SET TO ACCOMPLISH FOR THE CAUSE OF HUMAN UNDERSTANDING
AND THE GREAT CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE. MAY THE ALMIGHTY ALSO
GIVE YOU STRENGTH AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT WHICH SHALL ALSO
BE A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOUR HUSBAND.

HAILE SELASSIE, EMPEROR

B. MR. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, HYANNISPORT, MASS.
WE WERE DEEPLY DISMAYED AT THE VERY SAD AND SHOCKING NEWS
OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF YOUR SON,
SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY. WE BESEECH THE ALMIGHTY TO
SPARE YOUR SON'S LIFE AND TO GIVE YOU STRENGTH AT THIS
HOUR OF TRIBULATION.

HAILE SELASSIE, EMPEROR

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*Adia Ababa 4/187
6-5-68*

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 04187 051448Z

2. PALACE, FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND BRITISH, FRENCH AND
GERMAN AMBASSADORS SO FAR EXPRESSED CONCERN AND SYMPATHY.

HALL

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POL 6 US / KENNEDY,
ROBERT F
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 540

PAGE 01 ADDIS 04190 052323Z

82

ACTION NEA 15

INFO AF 09, CPR 02, GPM 04, H 02, NSC 10, O 02, OPR 02, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20,

SY 03, USIA 12, EUR 15, INR 07, SSC 00, RSR 01, / 109 W
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P R 052229Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5859

INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4190

1. COMMGHORE#PRINCE DESTA AND IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ON BEHALF OF
EMPEROR AND THE SHAH CALLED ME THIS EVENING TO EXPRESS PROFOUND
REGRET OVER ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY. BOTH ASKED THAT I RELAY
AT ONCE TO HIM AND SHAH ANY REPORT WE RECEIVE ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S
CONDITION AS WELL AS ANY INFO ON IDENTIFICATION OF GUNMAN. PRINCE
DESTA ASKED THAT CONCERN AND SYMPATHY OF ETHIOPIAN ROYAL FAMILY
BE CONVEYED TO BOTH MRS ROBERT KENNEDY AND MRS JOHN KENNEDY.
I WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S PASSING THESE MESSAGES IN APPRO-
PRIATE MANNER. IN RESPONSE THESE AND MANY OTHER IN-
QUIRIES HERE, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD BE ADVISED CURRENTLY
ON SENATOR'S CONDITION AND EFFORTS IDENTIFY HIS ATTACKER.

2. IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TOLD ME SHAH'S FUTURE TRAVEL PLANS MAY BE
CHANGED TO VISIT MOROCCO BEFORE ROME AND U.S. HE WILL ADVISE
ME DEFINITELY TOMORROW MORNING. HALL

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POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 05193 051145Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,P 04,USIA 12,NSC 10,SSO 00,AS 01,RSR 01,RSC 0

1068 W

R 051130Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5692

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE AMMAN 5193

DEPUTY PRIMIN TOUQAN HAS JUST TELEPHONED TO EXPRESS
REGRETS AT NEWS OF SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY.
SYMME

Amman 5193
6-5-68

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Department of State

POL 6- US/KENNEDY
ROBERT F
TELEGRAM

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CONFIDENTIAL 226

PAGE 01 THE HA 05574 051902Z

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ACTION EUR 24

INFO CPR 02,SSO 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,

NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,NIC 01,RSR 01,089 W

R 051500Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2569

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5574

1. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO EXAGGERATE THE SENSE OF SHOCK AND CONSTERNATION WHICH HAS ENGULFED EVERYONE WITH WHOM I HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT SINCE THE NEWS BROKE OF THE ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY.

2. I ATTENDED A RECEPTION AT NOON FOR CHIEFS OF MISSION AND THEIR WIVES FOR OPENING NEWLY RESTORED GERMAN EMBASSY BUILDING, AND EVERY AMBASSADOR AS WELL AS DUTCH NATIONAL PRESENT REFLECTED SAME MOOD AND ATTITUDE. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TOOK ME ASIDE AND WAS AT PARTICULAR PAINS CONVEY HIS SYMPATHY: QUOTE THIS IS VERY BAD NEWS FOR ALL OF US, UNQUOTE HE SAID. TYLER

*The Hague 5574
6.5.68*

CONFIDENTIAL



Department of State

TELEGRAM

POB 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

UNCLASSIFIED 703

PAGE 01 VIENNA 04659 051347Z

47

ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, /072 W

R 051303Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4273

UNCLAS VIENNA 4659

SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR KLAUS STATEMENT RE ATTACK
ON SENATOR KENNEDY

CHANCELLOR KLAUS RELEASED FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO
AUSTRIAN PRESS AGENCY AT 11:05 AM: QTE THE NEWS
OF THE TERRIBLE ATTEMPT ON SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY'S
LIFE HAS SHOCKED AND BEWILDERED THE WORLD. ON MY
OWN BEHALF AND ON BEHALF OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
AND THE ENTIRE AUSTRIAN PEOPLE I AM EXPRESSING
REGRET AND GRIEF AT THIS EVIL DEED. HOWEVER HARD
POLITICAL DIFFERENCES MAY CLASH, PHYSICAL ANNILATION
OF THE POLITICAL ADVERSARY IS WHOLLY UNJUSTIFIABLE.
OUR THOUGHTS IN THESE HOURS ARE WITH THE FAMILY OF
THE SENATOR AND DEEPLY AFFLICTED AMERICAN PEOPLE. UNQTE
IRVING

VIENNA-4659
6-5-68

UNCLASSIFIED

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

POL 6 25 / Kennedy,
Robert F. 6659
DAC

5 JUN 68 18 03Z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: ~~PRIORITY~~ CIRCULAR PRIORITY

Info:

STATE

1. The following guidance has been transmitted to USIA media:
2. All strata of American society are shocked and horrified by the Kennedy shooting. From the President and his official family to the lowliest members of the national community, all share the deepest compassion for the Kennedy family. In the words of President Johnson, we all pray for the Senator's recovery.
3. It can be expected that once the initial statements of shock, horror and grief have been made, there may be a flurry of extremist and intemperate statements, statements critical of "a sick society" which can generate such assassinations. These should be used only in direct ratio to the importance of their authors.
4. As in the death of John Kennedy, many in the world again will regard today's tragic shooting in terms of a conspiracy. We cannot and should not be in a position of adding to, or assessing in any way, this kind of theorizing. We should stick strictly with official comments by the police and other law enforcement agencies. For the time being, avoid picking up non-official comments on this subject from whatever source.

Drafted by:

USIA:IOP/G - MSorkin

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

EUR/EX:HRMills (per M Remick)

Clearances:

USIA/I - Mr. Chernoff

USIA/IOP - Miss White

IAS:MRemick

EUR/EE:Mr. McKisson

EUR/SOV:Mr. Malone

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

OUTGOING
MESSAGE
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Classification

5. In view of the events surrounding the killing of President Kennedy's assassin five years ago, we should watch for and use any details on the legal rights being afforded the man under arrest in today's shooting. He has been offered the opportunity to have a lawyer, informed of other rights, etc.
6. On the basis of descriptions of the alleged assailant, some news itmes speculate that he might be a Latin American, Mexican-American, Eurasian, etc. We should not use any of these reports pending official confirmation of the man's identity.
7. Also sent all principal USIS posts.

Exempt

SENT TO: BUCHAREST
BUDAPEST
MOSCOW
PRAGUE
SOFIA
WARSAW

RUSK

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Classification

(52)

POL 6 215 / Kennedy, Robert F.
76747

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin

ACTION: ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IN AFRICA

Info:

~~TOP SECRET~~

"INFORM CONSULS"

SUBJECT: Classification of reporting on reaction to Robert F. Kennedy

~~Assassination attempt~~

1. Report reactions to Senator Kennedy assassination attempt via unclassified messages to extent discretion permits.
2. Without delaying reporting, avoid unnecessary mixing of unclassified and classified matter in same message. Where separation of classified and unclassified content impractical in initial telegraphic reporting, effect separation in subsequent prompt airgrams.
3. Purpose is to permit Americans, especially serious scholars in history, biography, political science, and other behavioral and social sciences, prompt access to full, complete, and authoritative information.
4. FYI ~~AF:AF/P:RJPerkins~~
predominantly
Mixing small proportion of classified comment with/~~unclassified~~ unclassified
factual content and tendency of some posts to overclassify reduced usefulness
of much otherwise valuable reporting on reactions to Martin Luther King
assassination. End FYI.

End

RUSK

Drafted by:

AF:AF/P:RJPerkins:mb 6/5/68

Tel. Ext.

2166

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF/P:RJPerkins

Clearances:

P/HO - Mr. Franklin

USIA/IOP - Mr. Peterson

AF - Mr. Westerfield

P - Mr. Phillips

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Classification

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

POL 6 US/Kennedy,

176846

Robert F.

5 JUN 68 20 54z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy KINGSTON

Info:

STATE:

1. On instructions from Prime Minister and Minister External Affairs Jamaican Chargé Smith called on Department (Long) afternoon June 5 to complain about late morning radio broadcasts quoting LA police chief to effect that Kennedy assailant's manner of speech identified him as coming from Cuba or Jamaica. Smith claimed this meant that Jamaica was being "unjustly judged" and that speculation of this sort was "abridgement of judicial process". Was told that later radio info made no reference to Jamaican aspect, that press media were reporting every scrap of information or rumor available, that media did not speak for USG, and that while appreciating reason we regretted GOJ's over-reaction based on fragmentary information.
2. Comment: Smith appeared somewhat embarrassed and emphasized he was acting under instructions from his highest level.

EXEMPT

Drafted by:

ARA:CAR:ETLong:jr 6/5/68

Tel. Ext.

5528

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: ARA:CAR:Edward T. Long

Clearances:

RUSK

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Classification



P&L 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

7

UNCLASSIFIED 328

PAGE 01 070647Z

14
ACTION AF 15

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, NSCE 00, H 02, FILE 01,

RSR 01, SSO 00, /068 W

R 051710Z JUN 68

FM S.E. GENERAL ETIENNE EYADEMA PRESIDENT, REPUBLIC TOGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC UNN

UNCLAS

PASS TO WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESIDENT LYNDON JOHNSON

E X A C T T R A N S L A T I O N

QUOTE TO HIS EXCELLENCY MR. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON

361/T/PR/AE WE WERE DEEPLY AFFECTED BY THE NEWS OF THE
DASTARDLY ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY.
PLEASE CONVEY TO HIM AND TO HIS FAMILY OUR VERY SINCERE
WISHES FOR A PROMPT RECOVERY. VERY HIGH CONSIDERATION.

GENERAL ETIENNE EYADEMA

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TOGO LOME UNQUOTE RUSK

Joseph, President of

1

UNCLASSIFIED



POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 427

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 03873 061029Z

16
ACTION AF 15

INFO CPR 02, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SS 20, USIA 12, H 02, SSO 00, RSR 01,
NSCE 00, CCO 00, /067 W

O R 060923Z ZFFI
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2771
INFO AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 3873

SUBJ: GOL PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON KENNEDY
SHOOTING.

ACCORDING TO LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY, LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER
BAKKUUSH MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT A NEWS CONFERENCE
IN RABAT JUNE 5, DURING BAKKUUSH'S CURRENT OFFICIAL
VISIT TO MOROCCO, ABOUT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON
SENATOR KENNEDY. LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY STATED THAT PRIME
MINISTER BAKKUUSH "DESCRIBED THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR
KENNEDY AS 'A GROSSLY SHOCKING AND REGRETTABLE ACT
AGAINST A CAPABLE MAN TRYING TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY.
I WISH HIM A SPEEDY RECOVERY'". STATEMENT HAS NOT
YET APPEARED IN LOCAL PRESS. NEWSOM

UNCLASSIFIED

Tripoli 3873 6/5/68

POL 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

1



59
Department of State

Pol 6 U.S./Kennedy
Robert F.
TELEGRAM
43

UNCLASSIFIED 626

PAGE 01 SANTIAGO 03929 052227Z

80

ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /082 W

R 052133Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5813

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 3929

SUBJ: RFK

1. ATTACK ON SENATOR KENNEDY HAD IMMEDIATE AND POWERFUL IMPACT ALL LEVELS CHILEAN SOCIETY. REFLECTING THIS NATIONAL MOOD AND HIS OWN SENTIMENTS, PRES. FREI CALLED EARLIER TODAY TO EXPRESS CONCERN AND SYMPATHY. MINISTERS, TECHNICIANS, PRIVATE CITIZENS, DIPLOMATS, EXPRESSED SIMILAR SENTIMENTS TO EMBASSY AND TO PRESS.

2. EXPECTEDLY, CONCERN AND SYMPATHY MIXED INITIALLY WITH RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLIER ASSASSINATIONS, PROVOKING REFLECTIONS ABOUT U.S. VALUES. HOWEVER, LATE NEWS CONCERNING IDENTITY OF ATTACKER SHOULD PUT END TO THIS FORM OF SINCERE QUESTIONING.

3. PRESS REACTION SEPTEL.
KORRY

*Santiago - 3929
C-568*

UNCLASSIFIED

44



POL 6 U.S. / KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.
Department of State

TELEGRAM

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UNCLASSIFIED 556

PAGE 01 TOKYO 08960 051237Z

44

ACTION EA 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

RSC 01, SSO 00, RSR 01, DODE 00, /074 W

P 051215Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0752

UNCLAS TOKYO 896

SUBJECT: KENNEDY SHOOTING

NEWS OF KENNEDY SHOOTING HAS SHOCKED, SADDENED AND BEWEILDERED JAPANESE, WHO STRONGLY IDENTIFY HIM WITH LATE PRESIDENT. IN FIRST REACTION HERE OF ANY LENGTH, MAIN EVENING NEWS PROGRAM DEVOTED FIRST FIFTEEN MINUTES TO INCIDENT. FOCUS OF COVERAGE WAS MEDICAL DETAILS, CAPTURE OF ASSAILANT AND SIMILARITY OF SHOOTING WITH ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT FIVE YEARS AGO. IN DIRECT TELEPHONE REPORT FROM WASHINGTON, NHK CORRESPONDENT ISOMURA SAID SERIES OF UNFORESEEABLE EVENTS SUCH AS MARCH 31 PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT, KING ASSASSINATION, NEGRO VIOLENCE, ETC., HAS LED AMERICANS TO ASK WHAT SORT OF COUNTRY THEY LIVE IN. VIEWS BROADCAST OF JAPANESE ACADEMIC WHO SAW STRONG POSSIBILITY OF POLITICAL MOTIVATION ON PART OF ASSAILANT. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN INTERVIEWED ON GINZA SHORTLY AFTER NEWS OF SHOOTING FLASHED GENERALLY EXPRESSED SHOCK AND DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT WITH US. OSBORN

BT

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

Takagi-8960
6-5-68

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: June 5, 1968

SUBJECT: 1) The Attempted Assassination of Senator Kennedy
2) Indonesia

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Yuri LENKOV - Second Secretary of the Soviet Embassy
Robert G. Rich, Jr. - Country Officer for Indonesian Affairs (EA/IND)

Place: La Provencal Restaurant, Washington, D. C.

COPIES TO:

EA/IND - 2 SY
EUR/SOV - 2 Amembassy DJAKARTA
INR/REA AmConsul MEDAN
INR/RSB - 9 AmConsul SURABAJA

Mr. Lenkov has periodically kept in touch with the Indonesian Desk, apparently having Indonesian-American relations as one of his reporting responsibilities. Since my own advent on the Desk in July 1967, however, June 5, 1968 was only the second occasion on which Mr. Lenkov had invited me to lunch for discussion of Indonesia.

On this occasion, the shocking news of the attempted assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy the previous evening dominated the first half of the luncheon. Lenkov seemed especially interested in whether this act would spark civil unrest in American cities of the type which followed the assassination of Martin Luther King. I noted that this was extremely unlikely, since the Rev. King had been the leader of a segment of the society which was largely unfamiliar with how to make its wants known and felt through the established mechanisms and therefore tended to express its anger and frustration through direct action. Senator Kennedy was the leader of no single militant group of society which saw itself as set apart from the mainstream, but on the other hand was of the main stem of American political expression itself.

Mr. Lenkov proceeded to explore the hypothetical effect of the attempt on Senator Kennedy's life on the candidacies of other major

POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F XR POL INDON-US

RECEIVED
JUN 6 1964

JUN 6 1964

ANALYSIS BRANCH

Presidential contenders, but I was of little help to him in this regard other than to belittle some of his wilder suppositions. The conversation closed on the question of gun control legislation and Lenkov noted that even in the Soviet Union national regulations made exceptions in certain instances to accommodate local tradition as, for example, in the Caucasus where the custom of carrying daggers was permitted to continue despite the prohibition against carrying concealed knives elsewhere in the USSR.

Indonesia

The main purpose for which I had been invited to lunch, of course, was to discuss Indonesian affairs. My contributions to the conversation consisted of recapitulating in standard terms the multilateral aid relationship with Indonesia and how we look to the IMF and IBRD to assist Indonesia in defining her requirements for external assistance.

Mr. Lenkov's questions revealed a specific interest in the following subjects:

1. Are U.S. relations with Indonesia "improving?"
2. What are the economic prospects for the government?
3. If the \$325 million goal for external assistance to Indonesia is not met, or if additional assistance is needed, will the U.S. make up the difference?
4. What is the danger of Indonesia moving toward a military dictatorship?

Although considerable time was spent sparring over number 1 above, Lenkov finally had to be satisfied with my statement that Indonesian-American relations were friendly and no major issues divided us, but that naturally there were matters on which we disagreed. I declined to agree that relations in 1968 were "better" than in 1967, but stressed that there had been no basic change and we expected none.

Questions 3 & 4 above seemed to be the main thrust of Lenkov's interest. It was clear that he was attempting to judge how far

we would go on supporting Indonesia, come what may (I merely reiterated the multilateral pattern of our commitment). Behind his questioning on the military also seemed to be a Soviet view that Indonesia was moving increasingly toward a military dictatorship. (I acknowledged the ever-present danger of such a trend, but indicated that it appeared less than likely in present Indonesian circumstances.).

When queried concerning Soviet relations with Indonesia, Lenkov noted that the massacre of Communists in Indonesia in late 1965 inevitably continued to inhibit relationships, but that Indonesia was an important country and the USSR intended to maintain friendly relationships with the GOI for the foreseeable future.

Toward the end of dessert, Lenkov brought up Indonesia's attitude toward Viet-Nam, but did not pursue the question, seeming to be satisfied in his own mind on this issue. Such comments as he did make were related more to what kind of Viet-Nam Indonesia would accept after the fighting stopped rather than Indonesia's attitude toward the war. He did remark in an aside that the statements of some Indonesian military officers on Viet-Nam looked as if they were made to extract additional assistance from the United States. I 'lowed as how that was not an unheard of phenomenon in the world.

(11)



POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT
Department of State
F.
TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 868

PAGE 01 KIGALI 01612 051516Z

42

ACTION AF 15

INFO SSO 00, CPR 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, NIC 01, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01

/107 W

R 051230Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 823
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS KIGALI 1612

RADIO RWANDA MID-DAY BROADCAST REPORTED ASSASSINATION
ATTEMPT ON ROBERT KENNEDY FACTUALLY WITH NO COMMENTARY.
KINSEY

Kigali
6-5-68

1612

UNCLASSIFIED

(1)

(1)



PS 7-1 JORDAN-US/SIRHAN,
SIRHAN BISHARA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

XR POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT ⁴³_{F.}

Jerusalem
6-5-68

CONFIDENTIAL 486

PAGE 01 JERUSA 01360 052332Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO IO 13,SSO 00,NSCE 00,CCO 00,USIE 00,SY 03,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,

W 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,FBI 01,
RSR 01,7086 W

0 052250Z JUN 68 ZFF6
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1776
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CLASSIFIED BY 154

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1360

REF: STATE 176785

1. SEARCH OF PERTINENT CONGEN RECORDS (UNDER VARIOUS COMBINATIONS THREE NAMES KENNEDY SHOOTING SUSPECT REFTEL) SHOWS ONLY FOLLOWING MEMBERS SIRHAN FAMILY. ALL WERE AMCITS WHEN REGISTERED AT CONGEN.

A. SALIM SIRHAN, DOB [REDACTED] AT TAYBEH, NEAR RAMALLAH. NATURALIZED PITTSBURG 1926. US PASSPORT 2200791 ISSUED WASHINGTON MAY 26, 1960. REGISTERED HERE AUG 15, 1960. SALESMAN. EMERGENCY ADDRESS MRS. MIRIAM S. SIRHAN (WIFE), 1211 HUBBARD ST., DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

P11

B. NIMEH SALEM SIRHAN, BORN AMCIT [REDACTED] TAYBEH NEAR RAMALLAH. REGISTERED AT CONGEN JUNE 11, 1962. STUDENT. FATHER IS AYED SALEM SARHAN OF TAYBEH.

P11

C. AID SALIM SIRHAN, BORN TAYBEH, DOB UNKNOWN TO CONGEN. APPLIED FOR REGISTRATION DEC 8, 1964. COMMENT: AID SALIM MAY BE VARIANT SPELLING OF AYED SALEM, FATHER OF (B) ABOVE.

2. CONGEN ISSUED NO RPT NO VISAS PRIOR SEPT. 1917.

3. CONGEN HAD HAD PRESS INQUIRIES FROM MICHAEL ELKINS (BBC AND CBS) AND TERENCE SMITH (NYTIMES), PLUS LOCAL JOURNALIST RAJA AL ISSA (FORMER EDITOR JORDANIAN AL FALASTIN). ALL WERE INFORMED CONGEN HAS NO RPT NO KNOWLEDGE SIRHAN SIRHAN. AL ISSA WAS ASKED IF HE KNEW MAN OR FAMILY AND HE REPLIED NEGATIVE.

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL